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Vicar's vituperations land him in court

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

For the Law it is incomprehensible that a man of peace should seek to achieve his aims with methods that could lead to acts of violence," the Prosecution stated.

He then demanded that Protestant vicar Martin Schröter, 54, should pay a fine of 700 Marks or go to prison for ten days. Mr Justice Muller, presiding alone over the Dortmund court, accepted the Prosecution's demand and found the vicar guilty of "incitement to cause serious damage to property and bodily harm" as well as "publication of material with illegal contents", even though he felt that the vicar had acted with integrity.

It was only a few months ago that the same judge replied to the Prosecution's demand for a similar sentence to be passed with the suggestion that it would perhaps be better to quash the proceedings.

Martin Schroter was a battalion commander in the War and is now an active pacifist. He is known far beyond Dortmund as a spiritual adviser to young conscientious objectors. In April 1972 he was the editor responsible for content of a supplement to the local paper of the Shalom Community in the dismal Dortmund *Neue-Heimat* Scharnhorst estate. He called for an improvement of conditions. To be more precise in the 1,400 supplements he stated: "Parking places in Scharnhorst: 12.5 acres; children's playgrounds in Scharnhorst 1.5 acres."

In court he added: "There are 3,000 children aged between three and six on the estate and the one kindergarten has only 100 places."

In order to provoke adults on the estate into giving more thought to this state of affairs that has remained unchanged for years Schröter summed up the facts and added words of Christ from the Gospel of St Matthew and a children's manifesto.

In this manifesto (published by *Die Zeit* as a satire) he urged the children: "Run and play among the flower beds. Destroy the lawns as you wish. Make them your playground. Take over the parking lots and damage any cars you find parked there. Make as much noise as you can. This is the only way you'll get any sense out of the adults to whom you have no recourse, who bring you down, isolate you and oppress you!"

No damage done

As the judge and public prosecutor admit, no cars were scratched and not a blade of grass was trampled underfoot as a result of this outburst. On the contrary. Dortmund has now introduced a statute that makes the provision of kindergartens compulsory.

Mr Justice Müller, however, is keeping to the letter of the Law, and imposing a penalty on the vicar for this provocative and satirical piece of incitement, especially as he incited the children to kick up a din and perhaps disturb the sleep of working men who need their rest.

Peter Kleinert

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 January 1973)

Banana record starts village controversy

Fredenbeck is a sleepy little village of 1,740 people near Stade in northern Lower Saxony – normally. But lately it has been riven by a storm over a 24 year-old teacher Annegret Oellrich. She has had charges brought against her by angry parents because she played an allegedly obscene record in the classroom. As a protest the angry parents called a two-day strike and kept their little ones away from school.

But not all parents were angry about the disputed record entitled "Why is the banana bent?" Those that weren't now are angry and have written to the local council in Stade: "We are not going to tolerate a loud-mouthed minority of people in Fredenbeck with influential contacts dictating what shall and shall not be taught to our children."

The protestors against the protestors went round the houses in Fredenbeck asking other parents to sign their petition. Many did.

Trouble began in the village set among trout streams and rolling meadows when the teacher played the record with its collection of children's rhymes to 29 ten year-olds. Three fathers and four mothers protested that the record was indecent.

The main item objected to was a verse writer Peter Rühmkorf had heard children themselves singing in school playgrounds:

"Abends geht das Lichtlein aus,
Mutti zieht sich nackend aus,
Vati holt den Dicken raus –
Und fertig ist der kleine Klaus."
(At night the bedroom light goes off,
Mummy takes all her clothes off,
Daddy gets his thingy out –
That's how babies come about).

Many parents have now listened to the



Annegret Oellrich (Photo: ...)

record which was recommended to ... schoolteacher at an education co... They say it is far from ... pornographic, containing child... rhymes and stories by well-known w...

Annegret Oellrich said that after ... had played the record during a Ge... lesson there was lively and intell... discussion of it with the children. ... parents who are in favour of the ... say that talk of the children being "... and perplexed" by it is nonsense.

One mother said: "It's not the ... that embarrassed some children but ... prurient attitude of their parents to ..." She demanded that the teacher ... reinstated instead of the threa... transfer to another school.

She is not alone. The children h... begun a protest of their own with ba... and placards demanding the po... teacher be allowed to stay.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 29 January ...)

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 1 March 1973
Twelfth Year - No. 568 - By air

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Basic Treaty underlines the German dilemma

Have the Germans lost interest in what is to become of their country? This seemingly provocative question emerges as a matter of course from the two-day Bundestag debate on the Basic Treaty between the two German states.

The Bundestag was half empty during the debate. In comparison with past debates very few members of the general public went to the trouble of following the proceedings on radio and TV.

The Basic Treaty, which supporters and opponents alike are agreed represents an about-turn in Bonn's policy on the German Question, has signally failed to arouse the emotional concern that characterised discussion of, say, the Moscow Treaty.

Can it be, after all, that the Germans have grown tired of the great debate about their political future?

In answering this question it must be borne in mind that the Basic Treaty is by now considered by and large to be a political fact, rightly so, since there can be no doubt that it will be ratified by the Bundestag and encounter no subsequent difficulties in either the Bundesrat, the Federal Republic's upper House, or the Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe.

On the other hand the irrevocable nature of the treaty is insufficient to account in full for the flagging interest in discussion of the subject.

When all is said and one differences of opinion between the coalition parties and the Opposition remain and the maiden speech of Professor Karl Carstens, one-time State Secretary at the Foreign Office, demonstrated amply and once again that the two sides remain poles apart on the subject.

Once the Treaty is in force the CDU/CSU will have no option but to accept it but the Opposition is far from feeling in the least satisfied that the debate, in which it has sustained a defeat, is coming to a close.

All that has kept the tenor of debate to within certain limits is the circumstance that differences of opinion exist only with regard to ways and means and not in respect of the target envisaged.

The Federal government and coalition parties have repeatedly emphasised that they too aim to overcome the division of the country and, the unwritten laws of parliamentary democracy being what they are, the Opposition can hardly dispute the fact. To do so would be to render politics in this country a disservice.

Discussion of the Basic Treaty has thus concentrated in the main on whether or not the expectations of Chancellor Brandt and Foreign Minister Scheel of a settlement of relations with the GDR are justified and on whether or not the Treaty might have laid a more favourable groundwork had the negotiations been better conducted.

The arguments thus left the present and were transferred to a future plane. They inevitably suffered as a result of no one, whether pro or con, being able to forecast future developments with any degree of certainty.

In point of fact bitterness among the ranks of the CDU/CSU is lent sustenance by suspicions that, to say the least, certain members of the Federal goverment and the coalition parties have come to accept the division of Germany and to regard it as irrevocable.

In academic circles in particular there are an increasing number of people who contend that the restoration of German unity would not be desirable.

They base this claim on the lesson allegedly to be learnt from history that the German nation, once united, is so large that tension regularly arises in relations with other European countries and leads to war.

It is no secret that this view is shared in many other European countries. So far, however, no leading Federal Republic politician has felt able to admit that he too shares it.

By its own lights the Federal government has brought about an intra-German settlement in order to ensure peace and quiet in Europe and to reduce such tension as exists.

At the same time it has repeatedly declared that the German Question has not been solved as a result and that a solution remains to be arrived at.

Bonn has thus papared over the dilemma inherent in its policy. It is logically impossible for a policy at one and the same time to solve the German problem that has caused Europe so much trouble and yet to leave the matter open.

To judge by the response of European nations in both East and West to Bonn's *Ostpolitik*, the currently prevalent feeling is one of satisfaction that now the treaties between Bonn and Eastern Europe have been concluded the German Question can for the time being be shelved.

No other explanation can account for either the positive response to *Ostpolitik* in the West or the approval of the treaties in the East.

If the Federal government seriously insists that people in the GDR must, in the long term, have an opportunity of exercising their right to self-determination it is going to have to attach greater emphasis to this aspect of its policy.

Opposition criticism is based to no small extent on the impression it has gained so far that this angle has been insufficiently emphasised.

A comment such as that of Free Democratic Bundestag member Karl-Hermann Flach to the effect that a nation can manifest itself in he form of two opposing political systems merely confuses the issue to an inadmissible degree and can only increase uncertainty.

True, political declamation is no substitute for politics, but the failure to outline clear political targets can also have political repercussions.

It remains to be seen whether the world at large and the German people in particular will grow accustomed to division as a result of the Eastern treaties or, alternatively, pay greater attention to the unsolved German Question in the wake of *Ostpolitik*.

Wolfgang Wagner

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 17 February 1973)



Finance Minister Helmut Schmidt (left) and Economic Affairs Minister Hans Friderichs in Bonn announcing increasing tax measures to curb inflation on 18 February (Photo: dpa)

Bonn's new tax measures to curb inflation

Grasping the opportunity presented by the economic position the Federal government has made an attempt to combine necessity and utility. Tax increases such as will beset hard-pressed motorists have not, when all is said and done, come as such a surprise that anger need be expected to persist.

In view of the incipient boom that all economists feel to be in the offing the government has indeed resorted to the only measure that can be considered right, slamming on the anchors at the points where, as far as can be seen, they are most likely to be effective.

Wages in general have been left unscathed. This is due partly of course to the welfare tenets of the Social and Free Democratic coalition. Also, though, it is fairly clear that Bonn was anxious to avoid a show-down with the unions.

As the extra revenue will exceed by far what is, in any case, a non-existent budget deficit, it may be assumed that more than mere superficial economic targets are involved.

On the other hand the government was evidently anxious not to turn the tax screw too far and is presumably uncertain as yet how much more the economy in general and the taxpayer as an individual will stomach.

The tax increases will unquestionably slow down an undeniably evident boom and are equally likely to resuscitate the economy should they be repealed either in part or in entirety.

This may not be true of petrol tax but it does apply, and directly so, to other measures associated with income and corporation tax.

This will be worth recalling when, for reasons of world trade or monetary considerations, economic policies of another order are called for.

Gert Tigges

(Neue Hannoversche, 19 February 1973)

The measures are:

– Stability loan, with the aim of siphoning off 4,000 million Marks' worth of private purchasing power, to be deposited at the Bundesbank.
– Stability surcharge: from 1 July 1973 till 30 June 1974 a ten-per-cent surcharge will be imposed on corporation tax and income tax paid on incomes in excess of 100,000 Marks a year in the case of single persons and 200,000 Marks per annum for married couples.
– Mineral oil tax, excepting oil for domestic heating, is to be increased by five pfennigs per litre from 1 July.
– With the exception of state-subsidised housing income tax relief for private individuals on the cost of building owner-occupied housing is to be abolished.
– From 1 January 1974 interest on debts will no longer be tax-deductible.
– Federal government investment subsidies are to be cut from ten to seven and a half per cent.

IN THIS ISSUE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

European implications of Kissinger's Peking visit

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Henry Kissinger's visit to Peking will not be without repercussions on relations between the three really great powers or, if one includes Europe and Japan, the Big Five.

Now that America's military commitments in Vietnam are coming to an end relations between America and China in particular stand to improve.

Oddly enough, it took President Nixon's breakthrough of a year ago, superseding two decades of Sino-American misunderstanding and hostility, for Japan and Western Europe to pip the United States at the post in establishing fresh links with Peking.

Unforeseen prospects emerge as a result, particularly in respect of Europe's new role in the five-cornered contests in world affairs. The outlines are as yet vague but they are beginning to take shape.

As long as the United States continues to lend formal support to the anti-Communist side in the Chinese civil war in its Taiwan exile there will be obstacles in the way of a swift extension of relations between Washington and Peking culminating in the establishment of full diplomatic ties.

Bilaterally Mr Kissinger will have dealt with topics as relatively modest in scope as trade, scientific and cultural exchanges, tourism, enrolment of students and the establishment of bureaux of the mass media.

Hitherto the Chinese have not been very obliging in these sectors, probably because of the running sore of Vietnam. The virtuoso performance of the Shenyan acrobats took America by storm, yet not a single American ensemble has so far had an opportunity of earning comparable applause in China.

A plethora of visa applications by private individuals to the Chinese embassy in Ottawa have remained unanswered. Only groups have been allowed into mainland China – conference participants, scientists, medical men, Sinologists and the like –, frequently on the strength of their ideological orientation (Vietnam war opponents or social militants such as the Black Panthers).

An exception to this rule was Joseph Alsop, the last cold warrior among America's better-known columnists, who was invited, together with his wife, to visit China privately and, much to the amusement of his many opponents, returned home a convinced Mao supporter.

Many American firms are, of course, envious of Europe's trade with China, but before there is any substantial improvement on the negligible 1972 trading volume of ninety million dollars Congress must, as in the case of the Soviet Union, end tariff discrimination by making China too a "most-favoured nation."

The most interesting part of Mr Kissinger's talks with the Chinese leaders will have been the emergence of a balance of power as a factor in keeping the peace, an aspect of world affairs that is more than philosophical in significance.

It is easy to envisage the idea behind this concept being the ambition on Washington's part to make capital out of Moscow and Peking's fears of one another. That this is not the intention is, on the other hand, likewise credible: it could so easily boomerang.

Henry Kissinger's predilection for his model, Metternich, is often absurdly exaggerated, but in one respect it is accurate. The post-Napoleonic peace was based on a legitimate order the cornerstone of which was that no one power was secure enough to make the others feel insecure.

This insecurity was rife in the days when the United States boasted either a monopoly of or absolute superiority in nuclear armament. The current balance of power between America, China and Russia is based on the fact that none of the three can lay claim to superiority. Within limits, of course, they have achieved parity.

Washington's formula for dispelling misgivings that unquestionably exist in both Moscow and Peking is that stability presupposes cordial relations with both, relations with the one not being allowed to grow so cordial, however, that the other might be excused for fearing that America and the other are in the process of making common cause against it.

Europe's role in this involved rule of three is more important than is generally assumed. The turning-point was reached, or so China specialists in the White House now feel, at the time of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

This move dispelled Chinese anxiety lest Russia attempt a similar military coup against China and led to a resumption of the Warsaw talks between American and Chinese diplomats.

"We would like to be on good terms with everyone," the Chinese privately assured their American opposite numbers at these confidential talks held while the late President Johnson was still at the helm.

The Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia has been instrumental in nearly all Western European Ministers (but not a single one from Eastern Europe) visiting Peking over the last twelve months and in all Western European countries but three establishing diplomatic relations with People's China.

Peking is in favour of Western European endeavours to strengthen Europe's military potential and the Chinese government is as sceptical as is, say, Premier Heath of Britain about mutual balanced force reduction in Europe, which would provide Moscow with an opportunity of transferring troops to the frontier with China.

The Chinese are likewise reputed to be in favour of an independent European nuclear deterrent (an idea about which Washington is not in the least enthusiastic) and opposed to the European security conference, at which Washington and Moscow but not Peking is represented.

Dr Kissinger and Premier Chou En-lai will have compared notes and ticked off strange combinations in the balance of power, no doubt reaching a consensus in their assessment of the prospects for relations between their two countries.

Herbert von Borch

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 February 1973)

Peking-Moscow tug-of-war in South America

Chilean Foreign Minister Almeyda has been invited to Peking with the aim of further consolidating ties between Communist China and Marxist Chile. The closer cooperation envisaged by the Chinese is increasingly forming part and parcel of a Sino-Soviet tug of war for influence in Latin America.

While a troupe of Chinese acrobats kept the public happy in Santiago and a party of Chinese experts was negotiating a shipping agreement in the Chilean capital a Chilean delegation was in Peking ahead of the Foreign Minister to discuss the uses to which a Chinese loan of 65 million dollars granted last year is to be put.

A number of agreements are in the pipeline to strengthen economic, financial and trade links between the two countries.

Prior to cordial relations and more intensive trade links of the kind that are in the offing in increasing numbers as a result of China's more flexible approach towards Latin America Peking sustained many a setback.

Cuba is the only Latin American country to have established, in 1960, diplomatic ties with Peking and a crisis of confidence arose even in relations with Havana, Fidel Castro accusing the Chinese of imperialist behaviour in 1966 at the height of the cultural revolution.

People's China had overestimated its influence on Cuba and tried to force the Cubans to side with it in its dispute with the Soviet Union.

Since January 1971 Chinese foreign policy has switched from revolutionary agitation to an alliance with Latin American nationalism and ties with existing regimes.

In swift succession diplomatic relations have been established with Chile and Peru, Mexico, Argentina, Guayana and Jamaica. Brazil, an erstwhile implacable opponent of People's China, has now embarked on trade with Peking and last September sold its first consignment of 140,000 tons of sugar there.

At the end of last year the first Venezuelan trade delegation visited Peking to discuss the prospects of closer cooperation.

This amount of progress in the course of a mere two years is directly attributable to a decade of dashed hopes. Latin America may have ranked last in importance in China's strategy of Commitment on behalf of the Third World but the failures sustained were none the less deeply felt.

Latin America, when all is said and done, was the continent on which the relevance of Maoist theories was in the long term to be borne out.

Peking's emissaries tried to gain their ends by lending support to newly-founded pro-Chinese Communist Parties set up in nine Central and South American countries.

These parties only gained support worth mentioning in Peru and the Dominican Republic. Peking, on the other hand, ran into trouble with the established regimes, the urban guerillas and the pro-Moscow Communists. The failure of this policy soon became apparent.

Currently diplomatic ties, more intensive trade links and cultural relations are the main targets in the foreground of China's approach.

Despite misgivings about Chile's "parliamentary road to Socialism" (a success that seemed to bear out the Soviet assessment) Chilian President Salvador

Continued on page 4

Success for Makarios in Cyprus

Archbishop Makarios has e... unscathed from the uncertain... 18 February Presidential electi... Cyprus. No other candidates ... elected to stand, he declared ... re-elected and dispensed with the ...

The loser is probably the ... partisan leader, General Grivas. ... his reactivated underground organi... that has recently staged bombing ... police stations and the like, no dou... a number of moves up its sleeve ... election day.

It would have liked to have ma... difficult for the Archbishop, ... outlook is rejected by the island's ... Greek Orthodox bishops.

Since discovering the advanta... independence and neutrality Arc... Makarios has been in the bad bo... Athens and Greek Cypriots fa... Enosis, or union with Greece.

His foreign policy meets, for ... reasons, with the approval of the ... countries and the Soviet Union, ... Mediterranean fleet has beco... permanent feature of life in the re...

At the same time the Archb... policy if independence and neutral... also defused the imminent c... between Greece and Turkey o... island's political future.

Turkey would continue to reje... with Greece and would probably ... enforcing a partition of Cyprus.

A conflict of this kind betwee... members Turkey and Greece wou... up a running sore in the south... flank of the Atlantic alliance a... General Griva's manoeuvres to ... successful the outcome would not ... civil war in Cyprus but also ... foreign policy complications.

These risks are probably viewe... realistically in Athens now than ... years ago and the Greek gover... would no doubt like to recall the ... if only matters were as simple as t...

Matters would, for that mat... made easier for Archbishop Mak... the Greek government were to ... disown General Grivas's partisan a... in Cyprus, but this too is an u... eventuality.

Despite the activities of EOKA ... hostility of Enosis supporters ... Archbishop can count on a consider... amount of support among the is... population, as evidenced by the ... mass demonstration in his favou... Nicosia.

His Achilles heel remains the ... relations with the Turkish Cypriots ... Makarios has for some time been e... in attempts to negotiate with them.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 9 February ...)

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ARMED FORCES

Political education in the army

Neue Hannoversche

Carrying out orders is still one of the foundations upon which the armed forces are built. No army in the world can fulfil its role without obedience, a principle that is as necessary now as it was one hundred years ago. But soldiers and the age in which they live have changed.

A couple of generations ago soldiers were told that there was some sublime reason for their service and their role which they could not understand. But soldiers today want to know why a particular thing happens, they want to know why a particular order is given.

As orders cannot be discussed once they are given, soldiers must have the mental equipment necessary to recognise the point of their role in society and their service for the State.

This need was recognised remarkably early in the Federal Republic, earlier, much earlier than was the case with other armies in the world. Theorists searched for concepts, some of which soon became hackneyed. "Citizens in uniform" was only one example.

These efforts to cope with changes in the world situation, classified under the general term "inner leadership", were more important in this country than anywhere else as it was a conquered nation forming an alliance with its former enemies.

The forms of inner leadership automatically changed as people's attitudes towards the State's omnipotence changed. As absurd as it may sound today, running the gauntlet, a punishment dreaded by soldiers in the eighteenth century, was also a method of inner leadership at the time.

The last thorough revision of the armed forces' concept of political education took place in 1966 when the two power blocks were still engaged in cold war and the majority of conscripts were apolitical and apathetic towards social issues.

The political commitment now common among the younger generation demands a readiness for discussion on the part of military instructors and leaders. The political changes that have occurred, ending the confrontation of the power blocs and instituting a period of detente, demand more political knowledge on the part of the citizen.

The new armed forces regulations concerning political education reveal that political and military leaders have recognised what is needed and are trying to do justice to the demands of the current situation.

The armed forces are thus making a contribution to the political education of people in the Federal Republic, a fact that cannot be too highly appraised as it far exceeds what is being accomplished by many other institutions.

Wolfgang Fechner

(Neue Hannoversche, 9 February 1973)

New guidelines for political education in the services

NRZ NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG

Defence Minister Georg Leber has approved a new set of specifications on "Political Education in the Armed Forces" to replace the regulations issued in 1966 and suspended last year after they were found to be politically and socially out-of-date.

Vice-Admiral Gerd Zimmermann, the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, claims that political education for soldiers is indispensable if they are to understand the reasons for the orders they are given.

The new set of specifications was necessary as conscripts today are more committed politically and more critical towards the State than was formerly the case, the change from confrontation between the power blocs to international detente demands more political information and, finally, educational methods have shifted the emphasis form the pure impartment of knowledge to the joint processing of information.

Soldiers are to be given sixty hours of political education during their fifteen-month service period. They will receive political information, recognise the need to defend our democratic system, learn about the role of the soldier in the State and society and grow aware of their rights and obligations as a citizen.

Soldarity will be encouraged in principle though they will also be taught that differences of opinion are normal and clashes legitimate. Party political influence will not be permitted.

As the standard of instruction depends on the suitability of instructors, Leber has already stated that political education is to begin at the top. Zimmermann attempted to dampen excessively high expectations by stating that political education could not be the main purpose behind military service and that the armed forces were not a school of political education.

Hilde Purwin

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 9 February 1973)

Armed forces universities not worried about staff

There will be no shortage of professors when the first officers enrol as students at the two new armed forces universities in Hamburg and Munich on 1 October 1973.

The Defence Ministry announced that over four hundred persons have applied for the 39 posts available in Hamburg alone. This is being judged as astonishingly good as seven applications are normally made for each vacant Chair in the general university sector.

The Defence Ministry welcomes the flood of applications but is not surprised. "We can immediately put into practice what is still being discussed at other universities," the Ministry's education experts claim.

They point out that the armed forces universities will be the first universities in the Federal Republic to include in their entirety the "study year", courses aligned to curricula and the combination of academic study and a social-educational aim.

The applicants include a large number of young academics who are prepared to work according to these new schemes. The Defence Ministry also points out that the armed forces universities are not meant to be a peaceful asylum for university teachers wanting to escape the unrest of normal universities.

The armed forces universities will probably be the only sector within the service where soldiers will have some say in decision-making. The form this share in decision-making will take on the university senate and various faculty boards is one of the important subjects facing the two founding committees in Hamburg and Munich, both headed by Professor Thomas Ellwein.

The Defence Ministry ruling on the establishment of the universities and the Armed Forces University Framework Law both state that all members of the university should have some say in decision-making. But the academic staff will have the final say in all questions of research, examinations and staff appointments.

The preliminary committees have been given plenty of scope to put forward proposals diverging from the original plans. But they will have to conform to the various laws on education passed by the Federal states of Hamburg and Bavaria.

Volker Jacobs/Hartmut J. Kleppner

(Kieler Nachrichten, 10 February 1973)

Young people oppose teaching military affairs in schools

The Bundesjugendring youth organisation recently passed a resolution against the teaching of "military affairs" in schools, following the lead of other organisations, ranging from the Young Socialists to the Education and Science Trade Union, which have never tried to conceal their opposition. So far no Federal state has made a serious attempt to start classes of this type at its schools.

The whole controversy about "military affairs" as a school subject started on 19 January 1970 when Chancellor Willy Brandt sent a letter to prime ministers in the Federal states suggesting that the problems of defence should be given more attention in schools.

The letter has not on the whole prompted the education ministries of the Federal states to take any special action. Some of them referred to earlier rulings while others stated their confidence in the effects of the general specifications and curricula at high schools.

Only the Saar and Baden-Württemberg made any direct response to the Chancellor's suggestion and issued a series of ordinances dealing with the treatment of military affairs in schools.

Draft specifications were published in Lower Saxony in June 1971 but the largely critical response they elicited has left the Federal state's Ministry of Education undecided as to what further action should be taken.

The education authorities' cautious response can be explained by the fact that ordinances of this type have little influence on teaching, especially as the school authorities do not control the success or otherwise of such courses.

No Federal state can specify the number of hours currently being devoted to security issues nor can they say whether and if so how teachers are dealing with these questions in class.

As questions connected with defence policy are discussed as part of sociology and community studies classes, an examination is neither possible nor desirable.

Interest in the treatment at schools of questions connected with the armed forces grew as the number of conscientious objectors increased. The majority of young people unwilling to do their national service came from high schools, suggesting that these schools did not give adequate treatment to the question of defence.

All Federal states except Hesse had older ordinances on the subject of armed forces and schools. Hesse is now revising its syllabus so that the armed forces to can be included in school timetables but nobody at the Education Ministry there is confident about its effects.

The various guidelines issued over the years – the first applied to schools in North Rhine-Westphalia and was published in 1962 – usually recommend that questions relating to the armed forces or defence policy should be incorporated into the timetable and also give headmasters the opportunity of inviting officers trained to lecture to youth for this purpose.

The ordinance issued by Baden-Württemberg in the summer of 1972 was strongly opposed for a time as it limited the whole question of security to the armed forces. The Ministry of Education there feels that the ordinance has helped teachers and pupils become more aware of the role of the armed forces.

School authorities and Church-run academies in Baden-Württemberg occasionally organise courses and events at which teachers can learn more about defence policy. Otherwise it is left to the teacher to acquaint himself with the whole complex.

But the Ministry has not discovered any great interest. Experiences in other Federal states suggest that this state of affairs is typical.

The various ordinances issued are more calculated to set the ministries' minds at ease than serve the purpose they are supposed to serve. The opposition of the vast majority of pupils against any type of military affairs education is not much of an incentive for a teacher to deal more profoundly with security questions and risk obtaining the reputation of a militarist.

An armed forces survey has revealed that questions of defence are not one of the subjects to which sociology and community studies pay any great attention anyway. Apart from a small number of exceptions, subjects of this type are only dealt with sketchily.

The armed forces youth officers claim that the atmosphere in secondary schools is more objective than it was two years ago though add that both teachers and pupils are largely ignorant about the services.

A survey conducted by the Third Division based in Buxtehude reveals that the armed forces are only ever mentioned in classes in one third of schools asked to cooperate in the inquiry.

An unbiased description of military affairs seems doomed to failure because of the trauma of the Third Reich which taught the German people that military power could be misused. Even official ordinances can do little to alter the deep-seated mistrust felt here towards questions of military power.

Hans-Anton Papendieck

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 30 January 1973)

■ MASS MEDIA

Rising costs threaten structure of the press

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

People who talk about themselves with any regularity and degree of thoroughness are rarely considered desirable acquaintances. Newspapers could face the same danger if they talk about the press too much.

But there is urgent need to examine the press because of the alarms sounded by newspaper publishers, the constant unrest felt by many journalists and the proposals put forward by the Social Democrats.

Newspapers are hitting their own headlines for a number of reasons. Mergers are continuing unabated, harming the plurality of opinion and information.

Large press concerns do not operate according to the British principle that publishers exert no influence on the work of editorial staff and are tending to form monolithic blocs. Small and medium-sized newspapers lag behind technically.

The Federal Association of Newspaper Publishers has now issued the warning that even the expenditure of medium-sized papers is beginning to eat into their profits.

The annual surplus of a daily selling an average forty thousand copies amounts to some 158,000 Marks, which is not even enough to buy a new type-setting machine. The millions of Marks needed to catch up on the latest technological developments will never be raised.

The only way out of the dilemma is further concentration and cooperation, as the SPD recently found with one of its newspapers in Hanover, or the State aid proposed by the Publishers Association.

The dangers of State aid cannot be ignored. Even a Mediaeval poet like Walter von der Vogelweide realised that the person who pays the piper calls the tune when he wrote *Wes Brot ich ess, des Lied ich sing.*

State aid could prompt editorial staffs to ignore any misdemeanours by politicians or public departments and represent things in a light more favourable to the authorities.

This danger cannot even be dismissed if State aid takes the form not of hard cash but tax concessions as in most other Common Market countries. But unce the danger has been seen, it might be avoided.

It could be avoided if publishers, who may be supported by the State and thus more prone to show their favour to politicians, agreed to let editors have the final say in all questions.

Appropriate negotiations have been conducted between the journalists trade unions and the Publishers Association for quite for quite some time now. This "internal freedom of the press" is meant to increase the independence of editorial staff.

Publishers here are apparently willing to negotiate but they do not want to agree to the British system where the publisher is only a tradesman. They want to be more than salesmen of printed paper.

After the stormy discussions about the media at its party congress the SPD has now put forward concrete proposals for laws governing the press. The internal freedom of the press stands in the foreground.

The legislature plans to step in if publishers and journalists do not reach agreement on this question and that of a share in decision-making for editors.who are otherwise denied the rights held by other workers.

The importance of this problem is clear. If the variety found in the journalistic world is to be cut down more and more by mergers and cooperative systems, it is at least necessary to increase the variety found in individual newspapers. Internal press freedom should contribute towards this end.

There is really no need to justify controlling mergers in an attempt to halt a trend that will lead to the existence of one, two or three giants after the smaller papers have had to give up in the face of rising costs.

But press concerns start becoming giants at a far lower level than in the steel industry for example. Mergers are usually controlled in other branches of industry when turnover amounts to one milliard Marks.

The Springer concern does not approach this figure but another one or two Springers on this country's daily newspaper market would be intolerable.

The much-reviled Federal state press committees proposed by the SPD in its study of the media reappear in modified form in the SPD's new document. Their main aim is to remedy abuses by the press.

Any person who felt himself wrongly treated by the press could take his case to the local press committee which would then decide whether or not to take action against the offending newspaper.

The SPD has thus turned to what is more than a minor problem. The public does not want to be abused by the press but it overlooks the fact that legislation would expose newspapers and their editors to the whim of all possible groups, associations, politicians and individuals.

Where there is no censorship before publication, Basic Law states pithily, there should be none afterwards either. A press committee, if the SPD really does plan one, would meet with the stiff opposition of both publishers and journalists.

Discussions on the future of the press can now begin in all earnest. They are bound to be violent but the result is what counts. Newspapers must not be allowed to become nightwatchmen from their inability to be anything else. *Alfons Schiele*

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 31 January 1973)

Printers union questions publishers' claims

The Printing and Paper Workers Trade Union has questioned important passages of the memorandum on the economic position of daily newspapers drawn up by the Federal Association of Newspaper Publishers (BDZV).

The union does not believe that the measures suggested by the BDZV are in any way a suitable guarantee of the dissemination of varied information and opinion in the Federal Republic.

What is required, the union claims, is a restriction on the economic freedom of press concerns by means of preventive controls on mergers, the need for permission to be sought before taking measures involving economic concentration, a share in decision-making for all employees through the establishment of economic committees and a guarantee of editorial independence to be embodied in new press laws.

The union agreed that the prices of daily newspapers had not risen as much as they could have but added that this was not, as the BZDV claimed, for political reasons but the result of purely economic considerations.

If readers were asked to pay a price that would cover their subscriptions, the union claimed, the number of copies sold would drop and advertising revenue would also be cut back drastically. Economic factors should not be hidden behind political statements, it added.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 1 February 1973)

Peking-Moscow tug-of-war

Continued from page 2

Allende has been granted a substantial loan for industrial reconstruction.

Peking also seems to have made its peace with the forces of nationalism that motivate the Peruvian military junta and the regimes in Ecuador, Mexico, Argentina and Guayana. They are at least opposed to the influence of the superpowers.

In Bolivia and Columbia alone the Chinese continue to lend verbal support to the Maoist underground group. This last vestige of the previous policy will doubtless remain for only as long as these countries fail to reconsider their relations with Taiwan.

China has gained Central and South American sympathies in three main respects. Peking supports the claim of coastal countries that territorial waters be extended to 200 miles. It has shown interest in the Andes Pact, a supraregional organisation designed to draw up a joint strategy towards foreign capital. It has also informed Mexico that it supports plans for a nuclear-free zone in Latin America.

Yet although the Chinese ambassador in Cuba may continue to harvest the sugar cane crop alongside Cuban farm workers it must not be forgotten that alongside cooperation with existing regimes China retains the alternative of revolutionary solidarity and can revert to this string of its bow whenever the occasion arises. *Helmut Martin*

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 9 February 1973)

CDU media commission regards the publisher the boss

The CDU/CSU media commission claims that editorial regulations should guarantee the freedom of opinion in newspapers and periodicals. These regulations, to be thrashed out between publishers and editors-in-chief, must state who has jurisdiction over the various aspects of editorial work.

The commission states that the newspaper's policies should be determined by the publisher. Editors could then be given complete freedom to write what they please as long as it is compatible with these policies.

The commission's document will be submitted for discussion to the CDU and CSU executives after Easter. It categorically rejects the press committees proposed by the Social Democrats. Instead the CDU/CSU propose greater powers for the Press Council.

To prevent further mergers, the media commission suggests that newspapers and periodicals should be sustained by rationalisation and cooperative measures.

The commission refuses to recommend that editors should be given a share in the decision-making at publicly-owned broadcasting stations. Here too the editors' rights and obligations should be recorded in editorial regulations.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 February 1973)

GDR pressmen and the Foreign Press Club

Government spokesman Rüdi... Wechmar has assured the ... Press Club in Bonn that the gov... will not influence the asso... decision on whether or not to ad... journalists from the German Dem... Republic.

This followed a violent clash of o... at a Club meeting when an E... European journalist proposed th... four GDR journalists working in ... should be allowed to join. All E... European journalists left the m... when the resolution was rejected.

Von Wechmar admitted tha... question of membership or non-me... ship was a political decision but ... this was no reason for the governm... interfere in the Club's private affair...

In the protocol declarations d... during the negotiations betwee... Bahr and Michael Kohl the gove... replied to the GDR's wish f... correspondents in Bonn to be ... entry to the Foreign Press Club by ... that it could exort no influence ... Club's decision.

In reply to a nimber of questi... Wechmar stressed that the gover... did not consider the journalists fr... German Democratic Republic a... eigners: "We view them as jou... from a third country!"

Consultations to decide details c... ing the activities of journalists fr... Federal Republic and the G... Democratic Republic in each ... countries were originally planned ... January before being postponed. ... GDR's request.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 Febru...

Majority oppose private broadcasting stations

Little support can be found ... Federal Republic for the es... ment of independent radio and ... casting stations. A survey condu... the Infas Institute of Bad Go... reveals that 49 per cent of the pop... is against, compared with 24 per c... and a surprisingly high proportion ... per cent don't knows.

Infas found that opposition ... independent broadcasting is stro... amongst the young and those people ... higher education – 62 per cent of ... to 24 age range and 66 per cent of ... school or university graduates oppose ... establishment of privately-owned sta...

Dividing up the figures accordi... political affiliation, it was found th... per cent of SPD sympathisers and ... cent of FDP supporters were ... private broadcasting while 26 per ce... CDU supporters called for indepe... radio and television and 45 per ... opposed it.

Opposition is strongest in the F... state of Hesse where 68 per cent ... out against the introduction of ... broadcasting. The greatest suppo... found in the southwest with thirt... cent supporting any move of this ... But even here 39 per cent of ... population were opposed.

In Bavaria, where the controversy ... broadcasting hit the headlines ... only eighteen per cent of the ... supported independent broadcasting ... many as 48 per cent rejected it.

During its eight-week survey ... asked 984 persons from the Fe... Republic, excluding West Berlin, ... support or oppose the introduction ... private radio and television compa... the Federal Republic that will li... advertising revenue and compete wi... publicly-owned broadcasting conce...

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 13 Febru...

THE LAW

Jahn's abortion law reforms unlikely to succeed

There is every indication that reform ... of §218, banning abortion, will come sooner than had been expected. Two different reform proposals are on the ...cks, the one camp favouring the "Fristenreform" (abortion to be available on demand up to a certain stage of pregnancy) and the other the Jahn reform, put forward by Federal Justice Minister Gerhard Jahn, which would only allow termination of pregnancy in certain emergency cases.

Jahn's proposal appears to have little chance of achieving a majority in the Bundestag.

SPD left-winger Karl-Heinz Hansen is confident that the Frist camp will win the day. Bundestag member Helga Timm, who drafted the Frist Bill allowing termination of pregnancy in the first three months without penalty reckons that the opponents to her Bill in the new SPD parliamentary party number no more than a dozen.

The head of the advocates of the three-month proposal 40 year-old Hans de With (SPD) from Bamberg is more cautious. He feels that the required 25 SPD members will be rounded up and the Jahn Bill will be put by them as a group to the Bundestag.

Before February is out we shall know whether there will be two rival Bills or not. Probably in March one or both reform proposals for §218 will have its first reading in the Bundestag and then be passed on to the special parliamentary sub-committee on law reform. Their deliberations should not last long, since there was a wide-ranging hearing in the Bundestag of the problems of §218 in 1972 at which 29 experts were present.

The green light for the three-months reform was given by none other than an opponent of the "Frist" idea, Chancellor Willy Brandt. He said in his statement ot government policy that in this legislative period there would not be a government draft for the reform of §218. The initiative would be left to the parliamentary party. Helga Timm considers the Chancellor's proposal to be the "tidiest solution". She said: "We shall by-pass Jahn and leave him out of it. That's as fair as we can do."

But Jahn does not want to be left out of it. He is at present trying to razzle up 24 SPD and FDP members who share his view. Although it is not normal for a minister to countersign a group proposal by members of the House Erhard Eppler (Economic Cooperation) would do so in this case.

Among the names that we know might follow Jahn's are Müller-Emmert, Metzger, Matthöfer, Bardens, Antje Huber (all SPD) and FDP Minister Josef Ertl (Agriculture). All favour Jahn's suggestion.

Jahn, who is determined to play the role of martyr said: "Even if my proposals are not accepted I shall speak my mind in the Bundestag. It would be a bad thing if my suggestions are ignored, since even if the Fristenreform gets a large majority . I feel both proposals should be discussed in the House".

Jahn sees the situation thus: "I base my calculations on the provisions of Basic Law. In this two human rights are in conflict – the rights of the unborn child and the right of self-determination of the mother. It is impossible to reach a decision that does justice to the rights of the unborn child. The only solution is to judge each case on its own merits." To be fair, Gerhard Jahn does go on to say that that is solely a constitutional appraisal of the problem.

If both proposals should come before the House the supporters of the three-month reform place their hopes on none other than Rainer Barzel! Of course, most Christian Democrats think that even Jahn's proposal is too liberal, but in his reply to the statement of government policy Rainer Barzel did stress that the §218 problem must be left to the individual consciences of MPs. Helga Timm says: "We'll keep him to that!"

Helga Wex, one of the CDU's top women said vaguely: "We agree to the necessity for a reform of paragraph 218. And during discussions we shall place a lot of emphasis on the flanking measures." *Heli Ihlefeld*

(Neue Hannoversche, 8 February 1973)

Marriage age controversy

Young men and women may in future have the right to decide to marry at the same age. This is one of the controversial topics the Bundestag will be debating in the near future, when the proposal to lower coming-of-age from 21 to 18 is brought before the House.

The Bill has been given its first reading in the Bundesrat. The government proposals which were brought before the last Bundestag, but which could not be completed contain the following suggestions: men will be able to marry without parental consent at eighteen, women at sixteen. But girls will only be able to start a business of their own before reaching majority if they have parental consent or the blessing of a guardianship court.

But numerous MPs feel that men and women should be treated alike. The principle that a "silly little chit of 16" should be able to marry as long as her husband is older is out of date, they feel.

The Bonn Ministry of Youth, Health and Family Affairs has already raised objections to the differentiation between the sexes on the age of marriage without parental blessing because it runs contrary to the principle of equality.

But the Justice Ministry stuck to its guns after Federal state representatives expressed concern that girls should not be able to marry at will until eighteen. Critics say: "Since the proposals allow for exceptions in individual cases the objection that girls under eighteen could be prevented from marrying even if carrying a child is a non-starter."

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 2 February 1973)

Major law reforms on the way

It will be at least a year before the general section of the new statute book comes into force and major law reforms are thus introduced, according to Bonn Justice Minister Gerhard Jahn. He was discussing the reintroduction of the Bill to introduce a new statute book, to which the Cabinet has given its approval. Originally it was hoped that this would become law by 1 October this year.

Although the new statute book is a political bone of contention and lawyers want things hurried up it is not possible to go any faster, since this is the most wide-ranging package of reforms that any Bonn government has ever presented to the Bundestag.

It will force Federal states to make several changes after a transitional period and brings about amendments to 300 national laws and seventy Federal state laws.

The new rulings in the general section of the statute book can only take effect when the remainder of the country's statutes have been adjusted. Gerhard Jahn says that one central reform will be the overhaul of the penal system, the abolition of misdemeanours and the creation of social-therapeutic institutions.

But Federal States have not so far put aside any funds for this reform. It will be necessary before any progress can be made to decide how many places in such corrective institutions will be required.

Other reforms described by Jahn as pressing were: the new penal system, reform of criminal procedure and the new marriage and family provisions, which will be lumped together in one law.

The fight against "white-collar" criminals was vital, he said, but it would take some time before the complicated procedure of law reform required to stamp their activities out could be pushed through.

As regards the reform of §218 (banning abortion) Jahn sees the trend being towards acceptance of the three-month principle. But, as he told the press in Bonn, "please do not take this as a prophecy." *Dieter von König*

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 February 1973)

More restrictions to be stripped from pornography laws

The government plans to relax restrictions on pornography and abolish penalties for immoral behaviour in the marital bedroom, but the measures are still a bone of contention in the Bundestag.

In the last legislative period few reforms proposed by the SPD/FDP coalition created such a stir as the relaxation of sexual prohibitions. At the heart of this was the proposed limited freeing of pornography, although many of the planned reforms in the "fourth amendment" were on more important topics.

Among the most important points are:

- The manufacture and distribution of so-called "soft-pornography" to adults is no longer to be prohibited. Only those who place such material before juveniles or force it on unwilling adults (through television or radio advertising for instance) will be liable to prosecution.
- Hard pornography, portraying acts of brutality, sexual abuse of children and sex acts with animals will still be banned. One new point to be introduced is that portrayals of violence that do not include sex at all shall be punishable.
- Exhibitionism (the most frequent sexual crime after immoral behaviour with minors) remains punishable. It may be possible to convict a person found guilty of such crimes for longer than the present maximum if this time is spent in psychotherapeutic care, designed to rehabilitate the offender.
- What goes on between married people in their own bedroom shall not be punishable unless a husband "sells" his wife into prostitution. In this case the Law will continue to step in.

The Cabinet has decided at a meeting in Bonn to introduce a second packet of ten Bills that were not pushed through in the sixth legislative period. Five Bills from the sixth Bundestag will get their first reading.

Apart from the reform of sex laws the Bundestag will discuss the amendment to monopolies legislation and regulations governing the Bundespost, as well as the first reform of tax legislation and the amendment to wine laws.

The unchanged draft for tax reform will increase considerably tax-free benefits so that the burden of property tax and death duties for the less well-to-do will not be so heavy. The reform also takes into account trade tax and land and buildings tax. *Siegfried Michel*

(Bremer Nachrichten, 1 February 1973)

Lawyers object to 'truth-hiding' law

Judges and public prosecutors are up in arms about a law making it compulsory for them to treat persistent offenders with the same leniency as first offenders. They will no longer be able to investigate the background of people charged with serious motoring offences and other recidivists.

The new Federal Central Register Law (BZRG, for short) that has for the past year covered the insertion of legal decisions into the penal register greatly shortened the period after which previous offences were to be expunged.

Originally this amendment was designed to prevent a criminal having to bear the stigma of his crime for life, and having it count against him if he fell foul of the Law again.

In the word of law the new ruling states: "After an offence has been expunged from the register or is about to be this offence may not be quoted by legal instances against the offender or used in any way to his disadvantage."

Judges in courts dealing with traffic offences and serious crimes protest that this is a mockery, since a judge may recognise the man in the dock as one he has previously sentenced, but will still have to put on a pretence of not knowing him or his past deeds.

Legislators hoped the law, by cutting the period by which past sins were to be forgotten, would make it possible for those who have gone wrong to be rehabilitated into society all the quicker with their police record as good as lily-white.

Basically there is nothing wrong with this ruling, judges and DPPs agree. But, they say, if this law is allowed to prevent legal bodies knowing the past misdemeanours of a recidivist it will throw a spanner in the works of justice and allow more maniacs on our roads.

They argue that the law in no way takes into account the fact that a series of petty crimes over a long period tell a judge far more about the style of life of the man in the dock than a couple of more serious offences.

Under the previous law old convictions, even if "out of date", could be taken into account if a man came up for trial again, just like any other factors that spoke in his favour or against him. The present legislation, many lawyers feel, leads to a "suppression of the truth with the blessing and support of the Law".

The League Against Drunken Driving decided at its recent meeting in Goslar to make representation to Bonn ministries and the Federal Congress of Courts for Traffic Offenders.

According to a senior court in Cologne the new legislation, which came into force on 1 January 1972, means that courts cannot take previous convictions into account.

The Federal High Court in Karlsruhe goes even further: previous convictions taken into account by courts before the new legislation came into force will make a case liable for revision or appeal, at which the previous conviction must be ignored.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 1 February 1973)

■ FINANCE

Deep-seated troubles cause mistrust of US dollar

For sometime now great floods of money have been moving again under there has been a panic flight from the dollar into currencies that are considered to be stronger. The favoured place of asylum has been, as so often in the past, the Mark. That is why the Bundesbank has been trying to shore up its defences with new measures.

This renewed lack of confidence in the currency of the world's greatest trading nation after several months of quietness surrounding the dollar seems all the more astonishing as America's attempts to beat the inflation bug have been more successful so far than those of practically all other countries.

Consumer goods prices in America went up by little more than three per cent last year, while in European industrial nations the rise was usually about six to seven per cent. Thus, if the fear was of major depreciation in the value of a currency as a result of inflation the flight should have been in the other direction, from European currencies into the dollar.

But a currency does not only have an internal value, the value determined by price developments in the country in question, but also an external value, fixed by fairly rigid exchange rates. The exchange rate in our present monetary system can be right or wrong.

The Americans say that despite the international adjustment of exchonge rates in December 1971 the dollar is still over-valued, while other currencies are now, or were all along, grossly undervalued. In these instances further adjustments are needed, they feel.

Discussions along these lines are nothing now – they have been carried out in the past few months without the position of the dollar being changed in any way. The latest unrest on the currency market began in mid-January when the wretched state of the economy in Italy led to a flight from the lira into Swiss francs.

Switzerland, which is a member neither of the International Monetary Fund nor the EEC, floated its currency. At first it was hoped that the latest turbulence on the international monetary market would be limited to this regional problem.

But then came news that was quite sensational, the reports of the trade balances in the United States and the Federal Republic last year. America was 6,400 million dollars in the red, a record deficit, while the Federal Republic scored a record exports surplus for the same year – 20,300 million Marks, or roughly 6,300 million dollars.

It is of course a coincidence that these phenomenal figures are almost the same in reverse. Nor is it true to say that the American deficit is largely due to trade with this country. The chief fly in the ointment is Japan, whose trade surplus in deals with America is in he region of four milliard dollars. This country had a surplus of about 900 million dollars in trade with the US.

At any rate the vast difference in trading figures affecting the two most powerful world trading countries immediately started the international currency speculators moving. Their conclusion was that the dollar was weak and once again in need of devaluation while the Mark, Swiss franc and Japanese Yen were due to be upgraded again.

In the case of the Yen this may be true – immediately after the exchange adjustment of September 1971 word went around that the revaluation of the Yen had fallen short of the mark. Since then the demand for a further upvaluation of the Yen has been unabated. Even in Japan itself there was serious talk about the need for a further revaluation early this year. The latest currency troubles have given force to this argument.

The Mark, on the other hand, is not undervalued at present, despite our high export surpluses. These surpluses have very little to do with the price of our exports. In fact a number of other factors are decisive:

1. Our exports manage to cover an amazingly wide range of goods, especially in the capital investment goods sector. These are in high demand at present in the light of international economic developments.

2. In the capital goods sector above all productivity, quality and punctual delivery are all important, relegating price to a minor role – and capital goods are the major part of this country's exports.

3. Unlike other countries that are dogged by industrial conflict the F[...] Republic is particularly strike-fr[...] helps us keep delivery dates w[...] greater reliability than many [...] economic rivals.

4. Goods from this country cont[...] enjoy a high reputation in the co[...] to which we export.

5. Federal Republic exporters [...] always worked overtime to maint[...] ground they have gained on [...] markets without pandering to incre[...] domestic demand which may b[...] temporary.

In the United States, on the [...] hand, domestic demand is so gre[...] exports of necessity cannot be cons[...] so important as they are in this co[...] and other industrial nations. Expo[...] not the be-all and end-all of Ame[...] prosperity.

Another factor is that the te[...] progress once reflected in Am[...] goods has been caught up by [...] countries and in some case[...] Americans have been left behind. [...] one of the main reasons why US [...] from Europe and Japan have in[...] rapidly, while American export[...] tended to lag behind.

Such factors meant that the Ar[...] export surplus of seven milliard d[...] few years back was whittled awa[...] two years ago it dissolved complet[...] the balance of trade went furt[...] further into the red.

Nor must we forget the high [...] capital transfer abroad by Ameri[...] led to America's record balance of [...] deficit of about thirty milliard d[...] 1971. Last year the figure was st[...] than ten thousand million in [...] Massive floods of dollars lef[...] homeland for Europe and Jap[...] there was increasing mistrust [...] dollar.

Hans R[...]

(Frankfurter Allgemeine [...] für Deutschland, 5 Febru[...])

INDUSTRY

Restructured AEG-Telefunken has high hopes for the future



[A]EG-Telefunken (Berlin and Frankfurt) expect their phase of restructuring to be for the most part completed [...] year. The restructuring began in 1969 [an]d has meant that the company has been [go]ing through a rather depressed period. The AEG-Telefunken board has announced that the 1972 dividend will be unchanged at ten per cent, although stock market reports had suggested there would be a cutback in dividends. The period of low yield is over, the board states.

Consistent and systematic consolidation of the AEG-Telefunken Group has been undertaken, and, according to Chairman of the Board, Hans Groebe, this has been more intense and faster than was originally predicted.

Structural rationalisation, which is part of the company's long-term business strategy, showed particularly pleasing successes. AEG-Telefunken entered 1973 with a far better trading position than in previous years.

The basic aims of business development announced in December 1972 for the previous year have not altered substantially. It is profits that interest the stock exchange, and Herr Groebe says that when appraising the results of current business – which has shown an improvement – and expenditure on covering burdens arising from structural rationalisation it is important to distinguish between the two. It would be necessary for the company to draw on its reserves.

The results of business management which grossed 140 million Marks in 1971 could not be given precisely at the moment. But at any rate more than five Marks (compared with 5.30) had actually been earnt by each share.

Dividends for 1972 will mean a higher pay-out by AEG-Telefunken, despite the level remaining at ten per cent, as a result of capital raising. Payment will be 65,700,000 Marks as opposed to 61 million the previous year.

Turnover forecasts for 1973 continue to be in the region of the prognosis made last December. It is reckoned that the company's worldwide trading will bring an increase of twelve per cent in turnover, which should reach about twelve milliard Marks gross. It is expected that in-coming orders will be up by eight per cent to thirteen milliard Marks. The revision of investment undertaken in December amounted to an increase of ten per cent to 365 million Marks.

Losses to be covered, arising from the structural changes should be much lower this year. Transference of reserves to subsidiary companies, such as the case of Kraftwerk-Union, was in the main an advance on the part of the parent company for future business. Herr Groebe would not rule out sale of participations, but this was to be regarded as part of long-term strategy.

The Group is on a pretty firm footing in all spheres. It is expected that results this year will be better or at least as good. The radio, television and other "entertainments" sector expects to break even, since the 1971 losses were more than halved last year.

Optimism in this sphere is borne out particularly by results achieved in the field of colour television with its growth of 43 per cent last year. With cautious optimism AEG-Telefunken can point out that its profits from colour television are among the highest. Its components sector is profiting from expansion in entertainment electronics.

AEG-Telefunken intends to try to introduce price increases of on average two per cent this year. The board feels that further rationalisation measures will pay off. Thanks to expansion it is possible to run production capacities at a high level, minimising the effects of fixed overheads and leading to improved profitability.

(Die Welt, 3 February 1973)

Higher dividends from Siemens

Siemens is to pay a dividend increased from fourteen to sixteen per cent for the business year 1971/72 (30 September). This represents eight Marks per fifty-Mark share. The company's capital on the profit side for the year is 1,197 million Marks.

Following the Siemens supervisory board meeting on 26 January in Munich it was stated that of the year's profits of 411 million Marks (238 million in the previous year) 209 million (72 million) would be ploughed back into the reserve fund.

At the main company meeting on 22 March the administration will propose capital raising in the ratio of eight to one. The new shares will be issued at one hundred Marks per fifty-Mark share (200 per cent) and for the trading year 1972/73 will be entitled to a half-dividend.

At the same time this, the largest electronics company in the Federal Republic intends to procure authorised capital of one hundred million Marks for the issue of staff shares and for the acquisition of participations, but not for the purposes of ordinary capital raising.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 January 1973)

Hoechst must be prepared to increase dividends

At Hoechst the pharmaceuticals division is so big, with turnover of two milliard Marks that it could be considered a concern in its own right. It is the third-largest concentration of production of pharmaceuticals in the world. From the profits side it can always sail in the lee, but the profits situation in Hoechst's synthetic fibres division affects the yield of the concern as a whole, directly.

That may sound illogical, but it corresponds to the practices of business management within the company, the largest Federal Republic chemicals concern.

Hoechst takes care of its pharmaceuticals division. "This branch must always be viewed from a critical aspect," said Rolf Sammet, the Chairman of the company's board at a conference with economics correspondents. It needs a great deal of expenditure on research and development as well as increased investments. Since its marketing is worldwide this department needs to have the sensitivity and tact of a corps of diplomats.

The synthetic fibres division is more exposed to the cut and thrust of daily business affairs. If this sector fails to make a profit the draught is felt right down to the shareholders. This draught was felt in 1972.

Hoechst is a concern built up on many pillars, but the main supporting pillars are pharmaceuticals, synthetic fibres and dyes. If trouble brews in any one of these departments the burden placed on the others can be nearly unbearable.

As far as shareholders are concerned it is dividends kept artifically low despite good or even excellent profits that are unbearable. Once again Hoechst is beginning to make handsome profits. Shareholders will presumably be tolerant of the breather before the 1972 payout. But if business continues to boom, as it is expected to in 1973, the company managers must be prepared to raise dividents by as much as they were reduced last year. So twenty per cent again in 1973!

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 February 1973)

Degussa celebrates 100th birthday

One hundred years ago the Frankfurt firm Degussa was founded under the name "German Gold and Silver Refinery, formerly Roessler". It began with thirteen shareholders and a capital of 700,000 guilders, or 400,000 thalers of 1,200,000 Marks.

Today it is a worldwide concern with a staff of 18,500 and an annual turnover of about 2,300 million Marks. Its range of products is extremely broad. From trade in precious metals to banking, from chemicals and pharmaceuticals to the nuclear technology that points the way to the future.

But Degussa is still mainly identified with the two main products with which it was concerned when it first began as Roessler, in fact 130 years ago. The municipal "coin warden" Friedrich E. Roessler was summoned to Frankfurt to take over the refinery for gold and silver supplying the municipal mint.

Degussa is still this country's gold and silver workshop. The company claims to import more precious metals, gold, silver and platinum, than any other in the Federal Republic and runs the largest factory for the separation of gold and silver from coins and industrial waste containing these precious metals. Ingots from Degussa are passed to the Federal Republic gold market and dealings are made in London.

It is a company secret just how strong Degussa is on the Federal Republic market. But it is known that the company had a hand in a very large proportion of the 130 tons of gold imported to this country in 1972. Most of this gold comes from South African mines.

Harold Bofunga

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 31 January 1973)

MAN is back on its feet again

Dr Karl Schott, the Chairman of the Board of MAN, the Augsburg-Nuremberg machinery manufacturers, reports that an improvement in the labour situation in the firm is expected in the business year 1972/73 (30 June).

In the first half of the current business year in-coming orders were up by forty per cent on last year at 1,480 million Marks. Over the whole year, Dr Schott reported at the AGM, overall productivity is expected to be up to about three thousand million Marks (2,900 million last year) including Gutehoffnungshütte Sterkrade.

At any rate it is not yet possible to tell what the effect of the latest round of pay-scale talks will be, so a forecast of dividends is out of the question at present. Unfortunately it is on the cards that it will not be possible to push through price increases required this spring to the full extent.

Bearing in mind the extension of the EEC Dr Schott stressed the importance of competitive prices. In this context he pointed to the takeover of GHH Sterkrade, which will bring a considerable strenghtening of the concern as a whole. Also, he said, the takeover of Büssing was a rational solution, even though it has not brought improved profits straight off.

Dr Schott laid particular emphasis on MAN's fruitful cooperation with Daimler-Benz in the shphere of commercial vehicles, helping to strenthen the company's competitiveness in the Common Market considerably.

Dr Dietrich Wilhelm von Menges, Chairman of the Supervisory Board, justified the merger with Sterkrade and Büssing, which has been criticised from certain quarters. Without it MAN's policy of conservation and avoidance of redundancies would not be possible. Herr von Menges outlined the reorganistaion of the GHH concern.

Just as the unit Kabelmetall was

Hannoversche Allgemeine

formed out of four companies to become an established and large concern so Büssing and GHH Sterkrade would be integrated into the corresponding divisions of MAN. Thereby GHH had the opportunity to develop into a national confederate of this country's electronics firms, thus creating for itself a strong position on the American market.

As a result of the join effort in machinery manufacture and electronics it has been possible to make the concern more strongly involved in spheres that bode well for the future, while spheres that do not seem to offer such golden chances have been hived off.

Machinery manufacture is once again getting back to something like its position before inroads were made into it last year. Between January and November the value of orders in hand was four per cent down after the price factor had been eliminated, but in the past two months it has been possible to cancel out this drop, though costs have been rising and world market prices dropping. Herr von Menges stressed: "In all spheres we have managed to find our feet again."

At the heart of this brief but matter-of-fact discussion was the matter of the drastic cut in dividends from eighteen to twelve per cent. A spokesman for the Association for the Protection of Minor Shareholders was of the opinion that it would have been possible to keep dividends at eighteen per cent, at least for the small shareholder, as this would only have required three million Marks.

The board replied that they had not wanted to eat into the substance of the company in order to keep dividends up. The lower dividend rate represented a payout that had been genuinely earnt. The proposed twelve-per-cent dividend was approved with a few votes against.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 26 January 1973)

■ TECHNOLOGY

Euratom scientists are under the politicians' thumb

Is joint nuclear research in Europe back on the uphill path now that the Technology Ministers of EEC countries have reached surprise agreement on a four-year programme for Euratom?

On the basis of sixteen years of experience a more likely forecast is that Euratom will remain the shop window of a smaller Europe, a venture from which economically interesting developments are painstakingly excluded.

Blame for the permanent crisis can hardly be laid at the door of Euratom research scientists in Ispra, Italy, Petten, Holland, Geel, Belgium, and Karlsruhe in this country.

For the past six years they have had to get by without a long-term research programme, eking a meagre existence out of annual emergency allocations, and in the circumstances they have done surprisingly good work.

At the very least they have shown that they would have been capable of doing a great deal more if only their political leadership, the Common Market Council of Ministers, had not continually let them down.

The furthest-reaching handicap from which Euratom has suffered from its inception in 1957 is the failure to make effective provisions to ensure that member-countries do not continue with research schemes of their own.

As it is, agreement seldom goes further than the principle that something or other ought to be undertaken jointly. When the countries concerned got down to brass tacks agreement was reached with difficulty on the lowest common denominator of nuclear research, and this was generally very little indeed.

As in other sectors Paris proves a tricky partner in Euratom. At Ispra, for instance, a new type of reactor has been developed up till the stage at which it could have been run off the assembly-lines, as it were, only to be banished to oblivion almost exclusively at the insistence of the French.

In order to be independent of American supplies of nuclear fuel they were interested solely in a reactor powered by natural rather than enriched uranium, the natural variety being readily available in Africa as far as France was concerned.

As soon as it transpired that the project was technically feasible but economically dependent on the development of European uranium processing plant the French lost interest and ensured that the Ispra reactor was shelved.

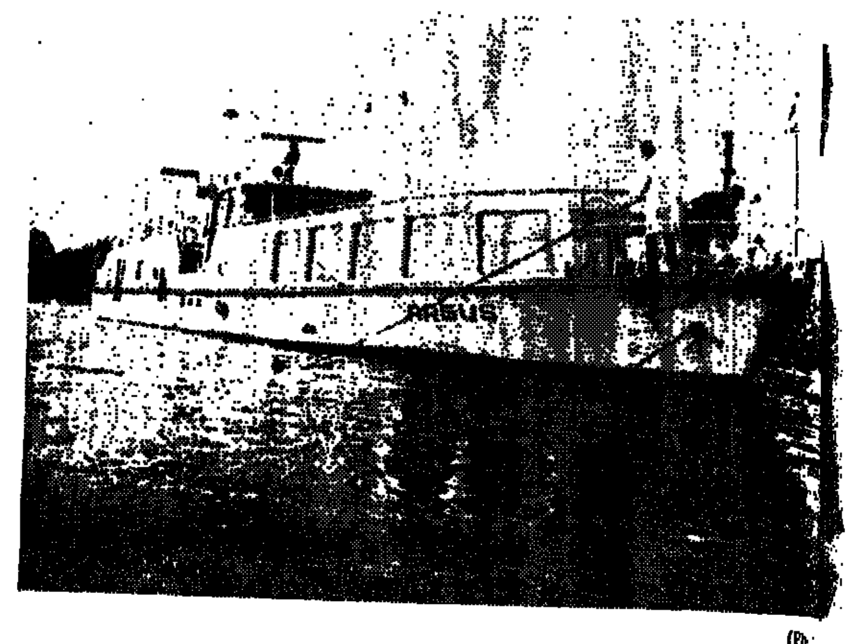
The French are not, of course, solely to blame. This country, for instance, has made no bones about the fact that it would sooner develop fast-breeder and high-temperature second-generation reactors itself and derive the benefit itself rather than delegate the projects to an international organisation.

The story has been much the same in respect of the other members of the European Atomic Energy Community. Whenever the prospect arose of a new development proving profitable within the foreseeable future individual countries attempted to pocket this plum itself.

Instead of European cooperation the best that can be said to exist in important sectors is bilateral cooperation. Euratom is left to work on aspects that are either felt to be unimportant or have yet to prove their worth one way or the other in terms of economic, financial and technological profit.

As long ago as 1968 the end of Euratom seemed inevitable. The Research Ministers of the Six were no longer able to reach agreement on a five-year programme and an emergency programme was approved in order, in the main, to spare member-governments the public

Continued on page 16



Anti-pollution boats patrol the Rhine

When the *Argus*, Europe's most up-to-the-minute environmental patrol boat, passes Mainz on its way along the Rhine the ship's measuring equipment registers a water temperature in midstream of 5.5 degrees centigrade and an oxygen count of 5.96 milligrammes per litre. "Fish can survive without difficulty under these conditions," a specialist from the Wiesbaden environmental conservation department comments. "Were the oxygen count to fall below four milligrammes per litre, though," he adds, "they would no longer have enough oxygen to breathe."

The *Argus* is the pride and joy of Hesse's Ministers for the Environment, Werner Best. Day and night it patrols the Hesse sections of the Rhine and the Main, conducting both continuous tests with the aid of automatic analysis equipment and spot checks on the effluent pumped into the rivers by – in the main – certain industrial concerns.

Its timetable for 13, 14 and 15 February, for instance, consists of a laconic series of "spot checks al... reaches of the Main."

The 32-metre (105-foot) *Arg*... been in service since last Septem... cruising speed is fifteen knots and... extremely manoeuvrable vessel manned by a captain, two sailors... revolving team of scientists.

The laboratory staff work ro... clock whereas the crew sleep at ni... a member of the crew maintains... on board the ship over the weeke... the scientific staff clock off. An ... be kept on the ship's valuable equ...

The *Argus* boasts not ... waterborne laboratory; it also ha... depth-sounding equipment, navi... radio for warnings to inland ship... a radiotelephone link with the ... nal telephone network. If need be ... establish immediate contact with ... the police or the Ministry in Wi...

In the laboratory water temp... salt content, oxygen conte... requirements, effluent neutralisa... the toxin count of substances ... ammonia, nitrite and nitrate, ph... cyanide and carbolic are measured.

In future the state administratio... not be limiting their enviro... checks to patrols of the Rhine, the... Hesse more than 2,900 million ... have been invested in sewage pro... plant over the past twenty years ... quality of water has worsened.

Hesse alone plans in the next fiv... to spend 2,600 million Marks on ... authority sewage plant. Accordi... current assessments 7,000 million ... must be invested by 1985 if the sew... 95 per cent of the state's population ... be treated. Between 1972 and 1974 ... round-the-clock measuring stations ... to be set up along the Rhine, ... Werra, Fulda, Weser and Lahn ... rivers subject to the greatest pollu...

Four such stations have so fa... established along the banks of the ... checking pollution from Aschaffe... downstream. Special significance a... to the Kostheim station, which ... main checkpoint at the confluence ... Main and the Rhine forms part ... international Rhine network.

The International Rhine Commissi... in the process of setting up meas... stations along the Rhine from L... Constance to Rotterdam, though ... samples are at present being taken.

These checks are to be joined by ... work of permanent measuring sta... Before the end of 1973 the Rhine... Palatinate and Hesse, in conjunction ... the Federal government, plan to set ... automatic measuring station on the ... in the vicinity of Mainz and Wi...

Helmut ...

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 9 Februar...)

Marine research is starved of funds

Marine research and engineering in this country feel themselves to be at the thin end of the wedge of a "development policy" that places thousands of millions of Marks at the disposal of relative newcomers such as atomic energy and data processing yet is only prepared to invest 700 million Marks in marine experimentation and exploration over the period 1972-1975, roughly half of this total going towards the upkeep of existing facilities.

Sad were the tales told by scientists, including Professors Kruppa of Berlin and Roll of Hamburg, economists and engineers at a press conference held in Hamburg on 8 February in connection with Interocean '73.

Interocean was first held in Düsseldorf in 1970 and is to take place this year from 13 to 18 November. It combines an international congress with a worldwide exhibition, establishing a link between science and industry.

Scientists and industrialists may reach a consensus but need not do so and in matters of environmental pollution they can easily be at loggerheads. It is, perhaps, not surprising that their joint approach of years gone by is in the process of being abandoned and a search for a successor in progress.

One question that arose in debate was whether this country might not be trying to accomplish too much at one and the same time in marine research and engineering, 700 million Marks being insufficient to finance the programme.

This suggestion was dismissed to begin with but it was Dr Barthels, the head of Blohm + Voss, the world-famous Hamburg shipyard, who wondered whether too much attention might not be being paid to culling raw materials from the sea when the imminent threat of a worldwide fuel and power gap ought to be a far more urgent problem.

Maybe, someone else suggested, the Minister of Education was confronted with too many problems to be able to gain sufficient insight into the problems of oceanology and marine exploitation too.

Stimulating interest in the sea is no easy task in this country in any case. The Federal Republic has far less coastline than, say, Britain, France or Japan, in all of which comparable expenditure is higher in terms of the amount invested.

This is not even to mention the United States and Canada, both of which spend enormous amounts of money on marine research and development.

Industrial spokesmen noted that considerations with a direct bearing on the market could be financed relatively inexpensively whereas those that were not directly market-orientated could not be dealt with without substantial financial assistance.

The question is: assuming we will, at some stage, be far more dependent than at present on sources of raw materials and energy derived from the sea, might not the purchase of know-how in the form of licence fees prove an expensive proposition?

Even so, this country is establishing a measurement network in the North Sea and the Baltic, is endeavouring to collate more oceanic data, is engaged in a not inconsiderable construction programme of research vessels and cutters and basic research is under way in physical, chemical and biological oceanography, marine biology and geophysics and maritime meteorology.

Detailed research and development work is in progress on marine pollution, marine foodstuff resources, mineral raw materials, coastal research and the interaction of ocean and atmosphere. On the North Sea island of Sylt a desalination research centre is under construction.

These are the sectors on which this country has decided to concentrate. A number of others must be added. "Industry," it was stated, "has gone as far as it can in terms of financial commitment."

Interocean '73 may demonstrate whether the emphasis has been right in every case and whether other countries have established a significant lead in any of the chosen sectors.

Bruno Bock

(Kieler Nachrichten, 9 February 1973)

■ THINGS SEEN

Directors of Art Exhibitions meet in Berlin

Day in, day out art exhibitions are prepared, opened, closed and dismantled all over the world. The men who arrange all this bear the traditional and somewhat clumsy title of "director of art exhibitions".

Since 1967 there has been an International Congress for Directors of Art Exhibitions and some members of the profession recently met under its auspices in Berlin to discuss the problems involved in organising international art exhibitions, as Dr F. A. Baumann of Zürich Kunsthaus stated in a circular.

The meeting was less a revelation of problems than an outright indictment of their position. Documenta 5, held last year in Kassel, was on the agenda as a typical case.

The controlling board and management of documenta 5, the city of Kassel and the Federal state of Hesse – in short, all those bodies responsible for organising the exhibition – were tried in their absence.

The revelations made at the press conference will more than astonish anyone not directly involved in documenta 5. Harald Szeemann was appointed artistic director (he was recently sacked) and his budget was cut so drastically that he feared for the survivial of his original plans and tendered his resignation.

He was finally persuaded to stay and carry out his plans, though with a number of cuts of course, but now he is being asked to make up for the loss – there are reports of a deficit of 660,000 Marks.

The budget also had to cover the restoration of two ruins to house the exhibits, the manager worked on a part-time basis in his spare time though the job really demanded his undivided attention, the technical director was dismissed overnight and was not reinstated until the exhibition threatened to collapse without him.

Students acting as attendants at the exhibition had to go to court twice before being paid. The woman responsible for transport was dimissed before all exhibits had been returned. The controlling board plans to hold its final meeting in Kassel on 16 February – Szeemann has not been invited.

It is not surprising that the directors of art exhibitions have decided to follow Heinrich Böll's words of advice for writers and stop being modest in public.

Among members who spoke at the congress were Peter F. Althaus of Basle Art Gallery, Jürgen Harten from Düsseldorf Art Gallery, Jan Leering from the Stedelijk van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Dr E. Roters of Berlin Academy of Arts and Dr Wieland Schmied of the Kestner Society, Hanover.

As the next documenta will probably take place in 1976 they made a long list of demands including the establishment of an adequately-staffed permanent bureau, the appointment of a full-time manager, decision-making rights for the artistic director in administrative issues and effective protection for all permanent and temporary staff.

They also expect the controlling board to waive their financial claims on the artistic and technical directors of documenta 5. "As far as cultural standards are concerned, the documenta is considered the most important international event of its type," their declaration states.

"But Kassel also has the reputation of profiting from the prestige without providing the technical, administrative and structural facilities necessary for the orderly execution of the exhibition," they add.

The complaints cannot be ignored but how will those responsible in Kassel react? They want to organise the next documenta for reasons of prestige (though the whole trend of the exhibition will certainly not please some of those responsible on the local authorities) but they are unwilling to spend public money.

Perhaps another city in the Federal Republic will prove itself more committed to an exhibition of this type and offer the organisers of documenta a new home (and not two half-decayed ruins). The venue does not always have to be Kassel.

But whatever the state of affairs in Kassel, the congress at Berlin dealt with more than documenta 5. Karl Ruhrberg, head of the Academic Exchange Service in Berlin, stated that it was to do with the latent crisis in the whole exhibition business.

H. U. Kersten

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 4 February 1973)

Cologne art fair will have plenty to offer

Günter Abels, head of the Rhineland Artdealers Association in Cologne, states that the fourth West German art fair to be held from 17 to 25 March 1973 will be a fair without sensations.

The Fair, organised by the Rhineland Artdealers Association and the Cologne Trade Fair and Exhibition Society, covers the complete field of art from antiquity to the present age and is open to the public.

As many as 149 exhibitors from all over the Federal Republic have announced that they will be taking part. Nine thousand square metres of floor space are available.

The Fair will be divided into two main sections – ancient art and ethnology will be represented in one section and modern art, including art nouveau or *Jugendstil*, in the other.

This year's Fair will concentrate on seventeenth-century masters, signed eighteenth-century French furniture and important works of German Expressionism.

The nineteenth century forms the main link between the two main departments at the fourth West German Art Fair. One of the greatest attractions of this year's range is an oil painting of officers in conversation produced by Adolph Menzel in 1853.

(Die Welt, 6 February 1973)

Welfare body for authors founded in Hamburg

On the last day of the 2nd authors congress in Hamburg the Chairman of the VS Dieter Lattmann together with Wilhelm Nordemann founded the Autorenversorgungswerk GmbH, a welfare body for writers.

The library fee to authors provided for in last year's amendment to copyright laws, the so-called library groschen, is binding to fifty per cent in social welfare. It is designed to benefit authors in their old age. These monies will be administered by the new body, a limited company, in conjunction with the Verwertungsgesellschaft Wort in Munich.

At a closing press conference Dieter Lattmann gave assurances that the VS would work energetically for freedom of content in the work of union organised authors.

(Die Welt, 23 January 1973)

Creative artists unionise

The Radio, Television and Film Union (RFFU) affiliated to the Trades Union Confederation (DGB) has welcomed the application of the Professional Association of Creative Artists in Berlin to work together with the Art Union within the DGB. The RFFU also forms part of this branch of the DGB.

The RFFU states that attempts within the creative arts sector to join a union would therefore be brought a step further. "The resulting talks will encourage the formation of an extensive trade union for the media."

The chief executive of the RFFU has opposed the Writers Association (VS) decision to join the Printing and Paper Workers Trade Union at the second writers Congress in Hamburg.

The RFFU believes that the Art Trade Union would have been the correct partner for the three thousand or so writers belonging to the VS. Both the Art Trade Union and the Federal executive of the VS are working on plans for a media trade union covering writers, artists, designers, musicians and other groups.

(Die Welt, 2 February 1973)



Oskar Schlemmer's *Conversation* from 1935

(Photo: Katalog)

Oskar Schlemmer exhibition in Berlin's National Gallery

Oskar Schlemmer was an admirer of Philip Otto Runge, Caspar David Friedrich, Paul Cézanne and Georges Seurat. He recognised in their work the "regularity" he aspired to throughout his life.

Schlemmer painted out of what he called passion for strictness but he considered abstract art as no more than decoration, a pure feast for the eye exposed to the caprice of the observer and connoisseur.

In 1910, when only 22, he summed up his artistic credo as Dionysian conception and Apollo-like form. It was still his credo in 1942 when, impoverished and outlawed as an artist, he finished work in his laboratory at a Wuppertal chemical works, peered out of the window of his small dark room, looked at the illuminated window opposite and saw "in peculiar fashion the world of the visual in all its intensity and surrealistic mystique".

Schlemmer responded to this experience by producing a cycle of eighteen "Window pictures", the highlight of an exhibition of drawings, water-colours and pastels at the New National Gallery in West Berlin.

Werner Haftmann has compiled and arranged this exhibition of Schlemmer's works with the support of the Schlemmer Archives in Stuttgart, the Stuttgart Staatsgalerie and a number of private collectors.

The main reason behind this exhibition which will also be seen in Zurich, is the thirtieth anniversary of Schlemmer's death on 13 April. Haftmann also wishes the exhibition to be seen as the final part of a trilogy which began in 1970 with a fascinating survey of scarcely-known works by Otto Meyer-Amden and continued with the Willi Baumeister exhibition.

Haftmann approached the Schlemmer exhibition with one aim in mind – to present art that could also illuminate those sectors of our experience that lie remote from the noise of contemporary life.

Schlemmer's experimental period when he devoted himself to Cubism lasted from 1912 to 1919. His graphic works after this date possess, with few exceptions, the character of experimental series and studies which searches for states, varies, commentates and plays around the painter's central theme – the figure in space.

At times his pictures go far beyond a study, gaining independence and finality. This is certainly true of the *Group of Women* he produced in 1929, an ingenious preliminary study to works now found in Essen's Folkwang Museum.

Water-colours such as this did not really need any improvement. In some cases these studies have not been developed upon as it would have been pointless to try and outdo perfection and make the perfect even more perfect.

Schlemmer himself considered the window pictures he painted a year before his death as the climax of his production. He saw in them the sum of his life work. Haftmann agrees.

But with all respect for the artist and his interpreter there are gounds to dispute this verdict. As far as the evident precision of composition, charisma and colour are concerned, the window pictures lag behind such masterful works as the *Entry to the Stadium* and the *Group of Fourteen in Imaginary Architecture* produced in 1930.

Death robbed Schlemmer of his chance to concentrate the essence of his eighteen window pictures into *the* window picture, the one and only.

Hellmut Kotschenreuther

(Kieler Nachrichten, 8 February 1973)

■ THEATRE

Plays of the twenties revived in Düsseldorf and Wuppertal

DIE WELT

The great dance in the abyss. The death ballet of a society that still knows how to celebrate its destruction with scientific precision and sensual pleasure. A view of the chaotic first third of our century – these are the motifs from our grandfathers' time cloaked in contemporary production styles that are filling the drama repertoires of Federal Republic theatres at present.

Thus it is not surprising that the search is on for undiscovered treasures that will once again conjure up the image of a historic phase for the contemporary stage.

At Düsseldorf's Schauspielhaus it was the British director Geoffry Reeves who brought George Bernard Shaw's *Haus Herzenstod* to the stage where he had made a name for himself three years ago during the Stroux era. This follows his brief intermezzo as director for the Städtische Bühnen in Cologne.

Shaw's play was written during the First World War. It is a dance of death, a "fantasy in Russian style on an English theme", in which the apocalyptic threat to the world is quoted as a "great rumbling in the far distance". But today it appears to be an introverted tirade of conversation of a group of dropped-out characters who take flight into resignation and nihilism throughout the 150-minute duration of the play.

Comedian spirits of extraordinary loquacity congregate in the house of a retired 78 year-old captain, who acts the part of the Fool although he speaks truths. But those who see the truths must of necessity be excluded from the means of communication binding together the company that gradually assembles in the house. The communication is lies and deception.

They are dim-witted people with broken hearts and explain the title of the play. The typical English country house, typifying England itself in the autumn of 1914 is revealed as being a madhouse full of neurotics and would-be gentlemen riders.

Shaw's misogyny gives point to the dialogue in this all too bloated allegory. The visions of doom at the end with sound effects of planes and bombs could not be integrated into this society with their *Jugendstil* costumes by Jan Skalicky.

What saved this evening for the Düsseldorf audience and made it a pleasurable entertainment was the amusing humourousness that Reeves instilled in a cast that was worthy of him. The destruction of the world – as I have said – took place in the far distance.

A little nearer to our own times is the Arnolt Bronnen play *Die Exzesse*, premiered in Berlin in 1925 where it ran for one performance! This has been brought to light again by Günter Ballhausen at Wuppertal Schauspielhaus.

It has been a complete success. Following the good example of Bochum, Wuppertal has succeeded in re-creating the atmosphere and social and political attitudes of the famous twenties in a cleverly enriched revue.

Arnolt Bronnen was in fact one of the most brilliant figures in literature and society in the twenties and thirties. His friends included Brecht and Goebbels. During his period as a prisoner-of-war in Italy he was already working on his comedy *Die Exzesse*. It was completed in 1921, that is to say at a time when Expressionism was nearing its end and starting to become laughable and The New Practicality was about to takover. The production in Wuppertal launches right into the Expressionist persiflage and Herbert Wernicke has designed a typically Expressionist stage setting with a stage decked out in Expressionist red on three different levels, but forming one unit. The play is motivated by youth and love, but this is only an external excuse for thirteen gay tableaux with a whole waxworks of figures from the realms of Georg Grosz and Kirchner, celebrating the excesses of an epoch that had clearly gone off the rails.



A scene from Arnolt Bronnen's *Die Exzesse*

(Photo: Studio van Santvoort)

On the Baltic coast the young things ramble and tumble in the spirit of Fidus with expansive Wigman leaps and Laban gestures. In the South Tyrol the Alpine dwellers who are attached to their homeland band together. Drunkards terrorise the provinces.

Bronnen's Arturo Ui with a moustache is called Lois. But the characters in this play are not straight up and down. Lois, as a worker in an office in Bolzano, clenches his fist and vituperates against capitalists.

His enterprising mistress works in a bank. This girl from the north has a guard of two "human hounds". But the real Youth is on the march. They carry banners and play the guitar for "today Germany will listen to us, and tomorrow the whole world!"

Ballhausen's team deserves applause for a brilliant performance with farcical effects. They have revived a play for renewed discussion that once did get people heated in a hypocritical way, but was far from doing anything to change their so-called awareness.

Wolfgang Stauch von Quitzow

(Die Welt, 9 February 1973)

Thomas Bernhard's *Der Ignorant und der Wahnsinnige* at Hamburg

Ivan Nagel is courageous. When he decided to take over the Salzburg production of Thomas Bernhard's *Der Ignorant und der Wahnsinnige* (The ignoramus and the imbecile) for the repertoire of the Hamburg Schauspielhaus he was risking doing something that is very unpopular at the moment – making excessive demands of his audicence.

At the premiere of the play produced by Claus Peymann the audience walked the tightrope between concentration and deep thought and uncomprehending amusement. The performance was of a very high order and this prevented rebellion against the demands made by the play.

Bernhard's second play – his first *Ein Fest für Boris* (Banquet for Boris) was also given its West German premiere in Hamburg – runs amok intellectually against all that is routine in the theatre. It is a theatrical tightrope-walk of the greatest dexterity. It challenges the audience.

Bernhard does not give his audiences stories about human beings, sad or happy. Instead he dissects naked human existence on the stage. His doctor in *Der Ignorant* says: "We are in a theatrical ice-age, which has nothing to do with basic dramatic entertainment."

The doctor is the main speaker in the triangle of central characters in the play, dealing out monologues on art, the theatre in particular, existence and culture. He gives long, lecture-like speeches on the dissection of bodies. He reduces human beings to an elaborate bundle of skin, muscles and nerves.

The doctor is called in to look after the half-blind, drunken father of a singer. With a great deal of charm he keeps putting his finger on the sore spots in this set-up of father and daughter.

The singer has reached the highest possible level in her career. She has become a perfect coloratura machine. She is a soulless artistic figure who hates her public and is obsessed by the fear that her voice will give out.

In the first part the father and doctor are waiting in the singer's dressing room for her to appear. For the 222nd time she is due to sing the Queen of the Night. It is just like Waiting for Godot. The doctor chats away to pass the time for himself and for the massive figure of a father seated in a wheelchair. She appears. A twittering, nervous, wound-up doll.

In the second part the singers, father and doctor are dining after the performance in a luxurious chambre séparée. The singer begins to cough – the first signs that her voice is cracking up. The stage darkens until there is a total blackout. Glasses and bottles on the table are knocked over. End. The end of human existence.

This concise, demanding, negative view of human existence was converted by Claus Peymann into the right kind of aggressive artiness at the premiere. With Bruno Ganz in the role of the doctor he had an actor who reached an astonishingly high degree of perfection. His attitude of being the man with the dissecting scalpel in his hand, his narcissism, his coldness and his coldness and his smoothness are horrifyingly good.

A similarly high degree of perfection is attained by Angela Schmid as the Queen of the Night and Ulrich Wildgruber as her father. The perfection of this production is borne out by Margret Homeyer as the wardrobe mistres and Otto Sander as the waiter, two subsidiary roles.

Karl-Ernst Herrmann has designed an outstanding décor and Moidele Bickel has created very beautiful costumes. After one performance in Salzburg, *Der Ignorant und der Wahnsinnige* caused such a scandal that it was sunk without trace. But in Hamburg it has borne fruit.

Erika Brenken

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 8 February 1973)



(Photo: Rosemarie Clausen)

■ MEDICINE

Cologne scientists experiment with bloodflow to the brain

The brain, the most sensitive human organ, is more resistant than was once assumed. A young scientist from Cologne has made the sensational discovery that brain cells still lived one hour after being cut off from the blood supply and started functioning again when re-connected to the circulation. But it is the problem of circulation that science has yet to solve.

The world of medicine previously believed that nerve cells were *irreparably* destroyed eight to ten minutes after the blood flow ceased. Scientists throughout the world have spent years trying to increase brain cells' life expectancy.

Dr Konstantin Hossmann, 36, of the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research in Cologne adopted a different course in his latest series of experiments. In experiments with cats and chimpanzees he found that the life expectancy of brain cells did not need to be increased. It was far more important to restore the circulation. His experiments revealed that this was the main problem.

Hossmann, a lecturer at Cologne University, worked for three years on these experiments. He stopped blood flowing to these animals' brains and restored circulation one hour later by simple tricks such as raising blood pressure.

The brain cells survived the lack of blood supply in two thirds of all cases and completely recovered within three hours. They reacted as they did before the experiment. The metabolism functioned again and electricity and sensitivity were also restored.

The arteries and veins were the only factors to change. They were so shrivelled that the brain cells could no longer obtain enough blood. Hossmann and his colleagues probed the circulation problem so long that they can now say: "In experiments on animals it is now possible to reduce changes in veins and arteries to the minimum extent."

Professor Klaus Zülch, head of the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research in Cologne, is convinced that this discovery is of immense importance. "Science always believed that it was our brain cells that were so unbelievably sensitive," he says. "Now we have to think again. It is not the cells but the circulation."

But nobody seems to be willing to undergo this re-thinking process. "Well-known colleagues of mine believed and still believe that the whole affair is incredible," Professor Zülch reveals.

Professor Zülch is confident that this epoch-making experiment will one day be of benefit to medicine. "There is no basic difference between the brain of a chimpanzee and that of a human," he states.

"We do not know yet what the limit is – one hour or even longer," the researchers claim. Research is continuing step by step in close cooperation with the nearby hospital at Merheim, a Cologne suburb.

"Perhaps, perhaps, we shall be able one day to resuscitate a person's brain shortly after death and end such cases as deaths under anaesthetic," Professor Zülch stated with all the caution of a researcher.

Barbara Reinecke

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 3 February 1973)

Artificial sex odour brings about a butterfly's downfall

Biologists have developed a synthetic variety of the perfume exuded by female butterflies to attract males in the hope that this will eventually replace the dangerous pesticides otherwise used in pest control.

Scientists at Erlangen/Nuremberg University's department of organic chemistry have long searched for an insecticide that would not prove harmful to the environment.

Under Professor H. J. Bestmann they teamed up with the Max Planck Institute of Behavioural Research, headed by Dr E. Priesner, to analyse the female butterfly's perfume and to produce it synthetically.

The Volkswagen Foundation, Hanover, provided 721,000 Marks for the research project, it was announced recently. The money will be used to purchase the necessary equipment.

If research is successful, scientists will be able to destroy the caterpillars of many species of butterfly that cause great damage in forests, vegetable gardens and cotton plantations.

The synthetically-produced sex perfume will be sprayed in regions affected by pests. It is hoped that vast numbers of male butterflies will be attracted and killed.

(Münchner Merkur, 31 January 1973)

Court rules doctors must inform patient[s] of operation hazard[s]

Hannoversche Allgemeine

The Federal Court of Justice, Karlsruhe recently discussed t[he] extent of a doctor's obligations to [...] patients about possible complications a[nd] consequences of serious operations.

At the same time the medical journ[al] *Deutsches Ärzteblatt* published a sur[vey] conducted by Mainz University's depa[rt]ment of medical law on how doct[ors] actually deal with this problem.

Both the court and the univer[sity] department stress the principle t[hat] doctors are obliged to inform th[eir] patients. But the Federal Court of Jus[tice] sets a limit on this obligation in th[ose] cases where a patient is more or l[ess] aware of the nature of an operation ab[out] to be performed.

The case before the court was that o[f a] patient who had undergone a complica[ted] abdominal operation. During the cou[rse] of the operation a nerve was sever[ed] leading to paralysis of the left calf.

The patient, who suffered from a [...] injury that had already been opera[ted] upon a number of times, had twice be[en] warned of the above-average risks [he] would face during the operation. But [the] doctors had not drawn his attention [to] possible paralysis.

The Federal Court of Justice ruled t[hat] as the patient was "experienced" [...]

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■ EDUCATION

Traditional school system must be reformed

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

Two basic school systems exist side by side in the Federal Republic – State-run and private schools. State-run schools are built upon traditional principles while the private schools are trying to put into practice new forms of education.

The current crisis affecting State-run schools is obvious. Performance is judged by grades for anything between nine and thirteen years. The subjective judgement of the teacher who happens to be responsible for the pupils has a lasting influence on their future.

Researchers have found that grading cannot be controlled to an adequate extent. Present procedure does not do justice to pupils. Good grades also depend on the pupil being well-behaved in front of his teacher.

Conformity is therefore demanded at school – conformity to the role of learner, the process of education and the personality of the teacher. Individuals are trained to satisfy particular demands, live up to certain expectations and fit into prescribed roles.

Individuals are taught that conformity is the only way of ensuring a good career. They must go along with what exists and try to outdo their fellowmen. Concentration on individual performance through egotism and the principle of competition is characteristic for the traditional type of school.

Private schools however have already abandoned the policy of merely drumming the mechanisms of performance into the pupil. The Montessori schools are a good example. Pupils there are not only meant to accumulate knowledge – they should also acquire experience.

The Montessori schools pay special attention to group teaching, one of the most neglected features at State schools. Pupils are trained to work on their own and take responsibility. They should find means of personal development appropriate to them.

Working with partners and groups is stressed alongside individual performance. The basis for this is the realisation that all social education must proceed from the training of the child's personality. Instead of forcing the child into a system of demands, rules and regulations, this system considers the personal situation of the individual.

A school's duties rest in continuing the social education started by the family. Individuals are taught modes of behaviour and working techniques. The generally desired aim is to make the individual capable of living and working within a society and its political, cultural and social conditions.

Some eight and a half million pupils are currently at school. They are streamed and channelled and the grades they obtain determine their future place in society.

Traditional schools cannot cope with these duties, as shown by the fact that thirty to forty per cent of all pupils find difficulties in learning or suffer from some other type of behavioural disorder.

To prevent children from getting into such a state, schools must be made fairer to children. Changes within schools amount to psychological changes. But there are only two hundred school psychologists in the whole of the Federal Republic, one for every fifty thousand pupils. The failure of the existing school system thus becomes a question of social guilt.

Educationalists must finally get round to establishing complete group teaching in place of the existing school system that has been recognised as unsatisfactory as it places too much store on formal performance and not enough on genuine learning processes. Only then can young people be taught to be independent, critical, mature and responsible.

Industry has recognised that normal school reports in no way consider the personality factors it desires. Firms are more concerned with an applicant's practical intelligence and less with his performance. Dynamism and team work are often more important than good grades.

An attempt must be made through education to replace the predominant mood of competition in our society into one of cooperation. The best chances of intensifying group work as a determinant factor are to be found in private schools as better educational opportunities can be realised here more readily than in the antiquated State school system. But as long as attending private schools depends largely on parents' income there is the danger that an elite will be formed.

Walter Diehl

(Handelsblatt, 26 January 1973)

Graduates still favour teaching

Schoolchildren are not allowing the growing number of entry restrictions to put them off university and are applying for places in ever-increasing numbers. Ninety per cent of those school leavers possessing the Abitur – the advanced certificate of proficiency – wanted to enter university in 1972 compared to "only" 88 per cent the previous year.

A survey conducted among the 184,000 school leavers with the Abitur revealed that no fewer than thirty per cent of them planned to become teachers. Among the girls this figure was as high as fifty per cent.

Over half the males who want to go in for teaching plan to reach high-school standard while 48 per cent of the girls would prefer working at an elementary school or a special school for the backward.

Universities offer a total of 69 different subjects. Mathematics attracted the greatest proportion of new students – 6.7 per cent – followed by electronics with 6.6 per cent and medicine and business management, each with 6.5 per cent.

Munich University still attracts most students. Four per cent of the Abitur-holding school leavers – a total of 5,100 – received a place here. Münster, Hamburg, Cologne and Bochum Universities were also in great demand.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 25 January 1973)

Army universities

The armed forces universities planned for Hamburg and Munich will offer places to 1,300 professional and long-term officers once they are operating at full capacity, the Defence Ministry announced.

A total of 770 of these students will be army officers, 515 will come from the air force and 105 from the navy. Courses are to begin in October 1973 when 650 officers will be admitted.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 25 January 1973)

Continued from page 12

result of his long injury the information given was satisfactory. Strict yardsticks should indeed be employed when exempting doctors from their obligations to inform a patient about an operation proposed, especially as it is usual and therapeutically beneficial for the patient *not to* be informed coldly and impersonally but in a confidential and understanding chat with his doctor. But the patient too can be expected to ask to know more details over and above the amount of information demanded by law.

The Mainz University survey published in the *Deutsches Ärzteblatt* indicates that 84.8 per cent of all doctors provide their patients with the broad outlines of future therapy.

The law states that doctors should inform patients about the typical dangers and side-effects of any proposed operation. According to a survey, 64.1 per cent of the doctors stated they would do this while 33.2 per cent claimed that the term "typical dangers" was too vague.

Only three per cent of the doctors covered in this anonymous survey admitted openly that did not inform their patients about possible complications before treating them.

Informing patients about fatal diseases is evidently the critical point in the whole issue. From the legal point of view the patient must be told the actual diagnosis before he can effectively give his consent to treatment.

If a doctor does not obtain a patient's consent, he is guilty of grievous bodily harm and subject to prosecution under Paragraph 223 of the Penal Code. But when treating incurable deseases, doctors often tell patients only part of the truth.

The survey revealed that only 11.2 per cent of doctors tell patients the whole truth when they are suffering from an incurable desease. But 96.8 per cent claimed they informed the next of kin. In most cases doctors want to protect the incurably ill against mental strain.

Doctors are extremely uncertain about their obligation to inform patients about treatment – 78 per cent of the doctors covered by the Mainz University survey claimed that information was left to the discretion of the doctor.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 1 February 1973)

Educationalists call to drop capitals

Six thousand persons, including two thousand teachers, have turned to the Standing Conference of Education Ministers (of the Federal States) and demanded steps to simplify German orthography.

The initiator of this scheme, which is to be extended to all official departments of German-speaking States, is an association founded in Tuttlingen in May 1972 to simplify the language by adopting small letters for nouns in place of the capitals now used.

The problem has once again become a lively talking point. Questions have been asked in the Bundestag and the Provincial Assemblies of Hesse, North Rhine-Westphalia and Baden-Württemberg. The Academy of Form in Offenbach has even proclaimed a "small letter week".

The small letter action group set up in May 1972 by teachers, students and schoolchildren as well as members of other professions is an extraordinarily active association.

It represents the wishes of teacher associations, professional groups and other committed bodies, putting forward their proposals and organising their schemes.

It hopes to force the Education Ministers Conference fulfil a promise it made as early as 1950: "The Education Ministers Conference will simplify German orthography and develop it organically."

A committee was set up at the time to simplify orthography. After a large number of meetings it accepted by fourteen votes to three the "Wiesbaden recommendations" which proposed small letters for nouns, though still with a long list of exceptions. Everything then got bogged down. The international conference in Vienna conceived as a crowning glory was called off shortly before it was due to begin.

The small letter association does not advocate any specific form of simplification. "We approve of any reform that makes reading easier," its spokesman says. "We would like to make sure that we and our children will experience the orthographical reform demanded for more than one hundred years."

It recommends capital letters only at the beginning of a sentence and for proper names. It does not believe that a system of 78 rules for writting a word with a capital or small letter is tenable.

Some 25 per cent (and perhaps even more) of all orthographical mistakes are violations against these rules. Nobody masters these rules. Thirty teachers who wrote a test dictation made an average of thirteen mistakes, ten medics, lawyers and lecturers made an average of 20.5 mistakes and eight women with further education behind them made an average of 24 mistakes.

German faculties at colleges of education in the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia have also taken a step in favour of writing nouns with a small letter. As they are convinced that it would be difficult to push through a law decreeing radical changes, they advocate a step-by-step process.

They propose that first of all elementary schools should drop capital letters for nouns, adding that it is these schools' uncritical spelling lessons that are one of the main reasons why past attempts at reform have failed.

The German faculties too want to retain capital letters for proper nouns and at the beginning of sentences and propose that violations of the capitals for nouns rules should not be penalised in elementary schools even before a general agreement to drop capitals is reached for secondary schools as well.

The German faculties put forward a list of good reasons for their proposal. They claim that writing nouns with capitals cannot be justified linguistically. It is not possible to define nouns clearly in some spheres – for instance that of the adjectival substantive. The only justification for present practice is "Nouns are written with capital letters, words written with a capital letter are nouns."

The difficulties involved in the present rules demand so much time and energy that the wastage cannot be justified educationally. The teaching time saved could be devoted to the more central features of language teaching, in particular the encouragement of language usage.

The undue emphasis still placed on spelling, especially when changing schools or being upped a class, would be reduced if capitals were dropped. Fewer pupils would be failed as a result of spelling mistakes.

Gerhard Weise

(Kieler Nachrichten, 3 February 1973)

■ OUR WORLD

Naturalisation laws to be made fairer

Bonn's bureaucrats are planning to reform the naturalisation laws so that there is a uniform cost for all foreigners wishing to become Federal Republic citizens, instead of the present system whereby people in some Federal states can make the change at lower rates than others. The Ministry of the Interior plans to fix the new rate before the year is out.

At a meeting in Bonn representatives of all Federal state quickly agreed on the amendments and were thus prepared to bury a small piece of federalism. The fact that their revenue is not being cut helped them make the decision. Bonn will decide the fee but it will still be the states that levy it.

Municipal offices between the Danish and Austrian border process 20,000 documents of naturalisation each year. No one has yet produced figures for how much this brings the Federal states in fees. At any rate in 1970 a total of 18,569 foreignors acquired a Federal passport for anything between 100 and 5,000 Marks.

It is quite possible for prices to vary even within Federal state boundaries. For instance foreigners who apply to the Regierungspräsident in Düsseldorf get off more cheaply than those who go to neighbouring Cologne.

Bureaucrats tend to throw up all the barriers available to them in law. In Cologne, for instance, the essential "adaptation to German cultural life" is only recognised when there has been a genuine "entry into Germanness" beyond all reasonable doubt. To each application an expert examiner is assigned, and he checks whether the applicant is conversant with the German language both written and oral.

Anyone who has lived in this country for ten years without coming into conflict with the law is entitled to apply to become a West German citizen.

Ludwig Frauenstein, the naturalisation expert at the North Rhine-Westphalia Ministry of the Interior, smiles when he looks back on the naturalisation laws for the State and Reich of 1913! Any foreign woman who married a German automatically became German and vice-versa. But it was not possible for a German émigré to cease being German. Times change.

– 1953 amendment: Sexual equality, and the right of a woman to claim free naturalisation.

– 1970: On the initiative of the SPD parliamentary party the woman's right to free naturalisation was rescinded and total sexual equality brought about.

Herr Frauenstein said that the so-called simplified naturalisation procedure was now available to the state government presidents. Before naturalisation papers are issued they must be approved by the interior ministry. From now on the fee paid will depend on the applicant's earnings.

Housewives with no other employment status will be judged on their husbands' salary. Wage and salary earners will be judged by a complicated scale but should not have to pay more than a month's earnings.

Baden-Württemberg is the toughest state. There the borough councils are responsible for naturalisation, for a start – even Germans must prove their nationality before marrying. The authorities there regard a passport as an indication but not conclusive proof.

So it is not by chance that the most naturalisations occur in Baden-Württemberg. In 1970 there were 5,991, far more than in the much more populous North Rhine-Westpahlia. There 3,867 former aliens became German, in Bavaria 3,476, in Lower Saxony 807 and in Hamburg 722.

Refugees from the GDR do not pose any problems to the authorities, unless that is they arrive without documents and no kith or kin in the Federal Republic can positively identify them. A personal identity card from Leipzig is enough to obtain a Federal passport in Dortmund. "According to the law," Herr Frauenstein said, "a German's a German."

Hans-Werner Loew

(Die Welt, 3 February 1973)

Foreign workers are not in the majority of those applying for papers to make them naturalised West Germans and having to wait for anything from one to five years for the documents to come through. Naturalisation authorities say that the foreign worker goes back home if he has not married here. Apart from people from Eastern Europe who have left their homelands for political reasons the main group to take Federal Republic citizenship is foreign graduates of West German universities. Naturalisation statistics for 1970 showed only 215 Spaniards, but 3,340 Yugoslavs, 2,245 Hungarians, 2,161 Rumanians, 1,002 Poles and 268 Russians. In the same year 944 Italians, 143 Greeks and 52 Turks received a new Federal Republic passport. Since then there has been steady growth in the number of Turks wishing to take Federal Republic citizenship. Two people from Guatemala became citizens of this country in 1970 and 48 from China. In 1969 more women than men were taking West German citizenship in the largest state, North Rhine-Westphalia, but by 1970 men were in the majority. Since then the numbers of each sex taking out naturalisation has levelled off.

Naturalisation after 10 years

Every foreign worker who has been in the Federal Republic for ten years should have the right to become naturalised, according to the President of the Hesse state labour office, Friedrich Wehner, speaking at a press conference in Frankfurt.

This right, which would at present apply to 250,000 *Gastarbeiter*, would go a long way to solving the present integration problems, he said.

Herr Wehner accused Bonn of sweeping this problem under the carpet. And he sharply rejected the idea that has been emanating from Bavaria that after ten years foreign workers, far from being made German citizens, should be packed off home.

Not only was such an idea unacceptable for social reasons, but it would also be economically damaging, he said. No sooner would foreign workers learn skills and trades than they would be lost to this country.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 February 1973)

Tough on aliens

Application of aliens law in the Federal Republic is to be tightened up even further. Interior Ministers of the Federal states agreed on this at a recent meeting in Bonn. "As a rule" aliens who commit a crime and are convicted more than once will be liable for deportation.

Also visas will be required of aliens entering this country, even if it is for education or further-education courses. The amendment to the corresponding administrative regulations has come as a result of the prompting of Bonn Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 3 February 1973)

Women married to foreigners form an association

After the attack on the Israeli Olympic team in Munich last year there were a number of overnight deportations with a minimum of publicity. As a reaction to this a body has been set up in Frankfurt by the worried wives of foreigners.

The body, known as the IAF, has an active chairman in Rosi Wolf, who is calling on other West German wives who find themselves in a similar position to make a combined protest against wilful and discriminatory deportations by the authorities.

"Every legal marriage – including those between Federal Republic women and foreigners – has the special protection of Article 6 of Basic Law. We demand that the inviolability of the marriage protection clause in Article 6 is respected by the aliens' police and the aliens' authorities, whose way of thinking smacks of authoritarianism," the basic programme of the IAF states.

For the most part the women in the IAF have experienced the way the authorities and the courts work. Whereas a German man is given an exotic air and made to seem much-travelled and experienced by a foreign wife, the German woman who marries a foreigner is regarded with mistrust, suspicion and prejudice which is reminiscent of the bad old days.

When a woman from this country goes to officials and applies for an extension to her husband's residence permit she is greeted with excessive familiarity, and if the application has to be turned down she is probably told so with an air of utter contempt.

Often the women have been told that they will soon see the light of day, and Rosi Wolf intends to see that they do just that. There are an estimated ten thousand women in this country married to aliens.

The aliens legislation of 1965, which was at the time described by the government as being "the most liberal and fair to aliens", gives the aliens' authorities a great deal of room for manoeuvre in their evaluation of individual cases, so much so in fact that a mixed marriage faces the constant threat of the husband's being deported or extradited.

An administrative guideline was drawn up last May, stating that "deportation should only be possible where a foreigner is guilty of a severe breach of the laws." But the way the authorities interpret this ruling was shown quite clearly by the deportation orders made last autumn after the Munich massacre. The husbands were woken in the early hours of the morning at their homes, taken from there to the airport and sent out of the country without even being able to contact their lawyers or seek any other kind of representation.

The authorities have stated that they regard the way such undesirable aliens have married West German women, to shelter behind their petticoats as it were, is a particularly refined trick, but one by which they are not going to bamboozled.

The wives of the deportees remain behind in this country, many of them with children to look after and no means of support. Unless their own family can step in and help them they are forced to seek national assitance money.

IAF has called on the services of a battery of lawyers and they have now drawn up a list of complaints to be brought before the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe. They intend to prove that the aliens regulations as contained in Basic Law have been infringed.

The lawyers feel that the actions taken by the authorities contravene the basic right of equality and the laws for the protection of the home and family, as well as limiting the birthright of women in the Federal Republic to live and move wherever they wish. When their husband is deported they are naturally drawn to follow him to his native country even if they would not normally wish to do so.

Critics of aliens law as it stands at present hope their appeal to the Federal Constitutional Court will be the decisive impulse that will bring about amendments to aliens law, bringing the offending paragraphs into line with Basic Law.

Just how discriminatory and unfair aliens law is, the IFA says, is shown by the regulations for naturalisation. Up till 1969 for instance the law was that the foreign wife of a Federal Republic citizen could immediately be naturalised if she so desired.

On the other hand aliens who married a West German woman had to have been in the Federal Republic at least five years, to have been married for a minimum of two, and had to prove that he was capable of maintaining the economic and social position of his family.

Today at least the sexes are equal inasmuch as the five-year-period applies to both men and women aliens.

One anomaly that has remained is that a West German husband is able to stand guarantor for his foreign wife while the reverse is not true.

Just how ridiculous the regulations about maintaining the social standing of the family can be, is shown by the following marry-go-round.

If the wife is having to go to work because her husband is a student and thus has no work permit it is possible for the authorities to refuse to naturalise him because he is incapable of keeping his family. If he wants to work and keep his family he is breaking the law because he has no work permit.

IAF is happy with the initial reaction to the first moves it has made since being formed. Surprisingly enough interest has been shown by a number of foreigners who are married to German women, though their wives "did not think the matter was very important".

But IAF regrets that so far the West German wives of Gastarbeiter have not shown much interest in the venture. They seem to take an it-couldn't-happen-to-me attitude. In some cases these women had been exposed to the spite of people who regard marriage to a foreigner as degrading for so long that they had come to accept the attitude and maybe even feel there was something in it.

Sabine Gerbaulet

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 January 1973)

■ SPORT

Would a European soccer league get soccer out of the red?

Federal league football is facing financial disaster. Launched ten years ago in a blaze of glory and great expectations, the nationwide soccer league is threatened by the prospect of bankruptcy.

Between them the eighteen clubs in the Federal league have amassed 22 million Marks or so in debts and a fair number of them are in really dire financial straits.

Last year this country notched up one achievement after another internationally, the national team impressively winning the European championship title. Yet on the home front life presents a doleful picture.

A number of factors combine to account for this ominous state of affairs, which to judge by the poor gates so far in the second half of the season cannot be halted in a hurry.

– In 1963, when the Federal league was set up, a slipshod job was made of the rules and regulations. Despite constant revisions the statutes are still not tough enough. Smart managers have always managed to find ways and means of persisting with certain strategems that are not in the long run to the advantage of the game.

– Club chairmen, unpaid part-time officials for the most part, have tried hard to do their best for the clubs but their financial dealings have mostly landed the clubs in the red.

– Players made hay while the sun shone, pocketing money whenever the opportunity arose. Some of them even stooped to rigging games. The fans, upset, voted with their feet. Stands and terraces were deserted and attendances plummeted.

– The increase in leisure activities put and continues to put a damper on the crowds' enthusiasm for football. The fans no longer unthinkingly head for their local league soccer match on a Saturday afternoon. They have started to pick and choose, a really fine performance such as that of Bayern Munich still drawing the crowds.

– Last summer's Munich Olympics held the limelight for a full fortnight, resulting in a general feeling that there had been more than enough sport for the time being. Besides, many stadiums have little to offer in the way of comfort, certainly in comparison with armchair viewing, and defensive play by teams including so many foreigners that it is hard to identify with the local club has likewise contributed to the decline in the number of spectators.

Let soccer officials lament that TV is the death of football just as it has been the death of the cinema. This is a deliberate falsehood. Club chairmen must take a more realistic view of the situation and learn to put their own house in order before levelling accusations at others.

Clubs that have assumed the proportions of full-scale enterprises with millions of Marks in turnover can no longer be managed with the aid of a roll of tickets and a cigar box for the takings.

Professional managers, full-time officials personally responsible to the club for ensuring that everything is shipshape and Bristol-fashion, must be appointed. Only when managers are appointed and clubs properly managed will there be an end to living above one's station.

The financial success of the first few Federal league seasons would seem to have blinded club chairmen as to the realities. They continued spending money left, right and centre even when the fans no longer passed through the turnstiles in their hundreds of thousands.

The ultimate solution to their dilemma appeared to be appeals for public assistance. The government and local authorities ought, they claimed, to lend a hand. Why? A business enterprise that fails has to go to Chancery.

Public funds for professional football ought not to be considered until such time as the clubs demonstrate a sound financial outlook.

Hertha, the West Berlin club, was long envied the crowds that flocked to the Olympic Stadium to watch home fixtures. It was rolling in money. And now? Where has the money gone? Hertha is the most heavily indebted club in the league with some six million Marks in the red.

The same story can be heard time and time again. While the going was good no one gave a thought to putting money aside. Bonuses, salaries and transfer fees continued to rocket even though takings declined.

Players took what was going as a matter of course without stopping to wonder where the money was to come from. As a result the stars grew richer and richer while the clubs grew poorer and poorer.

As regards transfer fees, the clubs would be a good deal better off if the player's cut were abolished. Where else in private enterprise does a man stand to pocket 20,000 Marks merely because a contract is signed?

All things considered, it would probably be preferable to abolish signing fees and increase bonuses. The incentive to every player on the field to deliver a better performance would be greater.

Now that Federal league soccer faces the prospect of bankruptcy the FA is threatening the principal offenders against the spirit of the game with expulsion. This may act as a deterrent but it will not solve the problem.

If pressure is to be brought to bear it must be financial in nature. There can be no denying that in terms of sport the Federal league has proved a success.

In the circumstances the proposed inauguration of a second division of the Federal league must be viewed sceptically, particularly when it is borne in mind that the regional leagues from which the clubs in question will be drawn are also some twenty million Marks in the red. The decline in the number of spectators is not a phenomenon limited to this

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

country. Even in Brazil, the home of the world champions, fans no longer flock to the pitch in sufficient numbers to cover expenditure.

Similar tales can be told of Yugolsavia, the Soviet Union, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Holland and Austria. In each and every case one of the reasons considered to be to blame is a decline in the standard of football played as a result of the defensive approach to the game.

Small wonder, in the circumstances, that consideration is being given to ways and means of making the game more attractive. A European league is one of the plans proposed. In a league consisting of each country's first division champion, every fixture would be a sell-out.

Yet a decision has not been reached on the introduction of a European league and no one can say what rules would govern promotion and relegation.

Werner Müller

(Deutsche Zeitung, 9 February 1973)



From the left Ludmilla Smirnova and her husband Aleksei Ulanov (second), Irina Rodnina and Alexander Zaitsev (first) and Almut Lehmann and Herbert Wiesinger on the winning podium at the European ice-skating championships in Cologne (Photo: AP)

Poor showing at European ice-skating championships in Cologne

The balance of power in European ice-skating has stabilised, to judge by the results of the European championships recently held at the Cologne rink. The Soviet Union boasts the foremost pairs and dancers while the best individual skaters likewise hail from Eastern Bloc countries, primarily Czechoslovakia and the GDR.

This situation is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future, unless, that is, the European championships increasingly develop into a duel between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic.

This country, the host at this year's European championships, escaped by the skin of its teeth, as it were. The reigning European dancing champions, brother and sister Erich und Angelika Buck of Ravensburg, may have forfeited their title and ended as runners-up in the pairs championships. Almut Lehmann and Herbert Wiesinger became this country's first medal-winners in the discipline for five years. They came third.

But there can be no concealing the fact that lean years are in the offing. Once these two pairs retire, and the signs are that they both will be doing so after the world championships in Bratislava, this country will be high and dry.

Halke and Rausch are not going to set the pairs world on fire and as dancers Kopp and Fuchs are all well and good but have long been outstripped by the international elite.

National coaches Zeller and Callaway have promised to launch fresh pairs in both disciplines but two pairs each is not much to go on and even if they prove a success, combining talent and hard work, it will be years before they have worked their way to the top and once there they will be confronted by a solid phalanx of first-rate skaters from the Soviet Union and the GDR.

The Soviet Union, one gathered in Cologne, already boasts eight training centres for ice-skaters. Some twenty pairs are already classified as masters and at least as many entered for the national dancing championships.

Soviet men skaters are going from strength to strength too. Iris Rodnina, apparently, was able to pick her new partner from a short list of 100 male dancers.

The only bright prospect for this country at Cologne with next year's world championships in Munich in mind was sixteen-year-old Gerti Schanderl, who came fifth in her discipline.

From July to November last year the Munich girl had to travel up to 200 kilometres to the Kaufbeuren, Garmisch, Landshut and Bad Tölz rinks with her coach Rosemarie Brüning because the Olympic boxing ring was not reopened as an ice rink until mid-November.

After the set piece Gerti Schanderl was in seventh place but despite a cartilage injury she provided the second-best freestyle display to rate fifth place in the overall ratings. Only the new European champion, fifteen-year-old Christine Errath of East Berlin, was better.

In the short set piece Gerti Schanderl came third, showing the greatest promise of all the host country's skaters at Cologne. She is capable of all the double saltos and has pluck.

The set pieces now account for only forty per cent of the overall evaluation but still represent a problem. The men and women who insist on the retention of the set pieces are the instructors, for whom they represent a source of income.

They used to represent sixty per cent of the total number of marks awarded, and although this proportion has been successively reduced to fifty and forty per cent the set pieces are still valiantly defended.

It was with the aid of the set pieces that Ondrej Nepela of Bratislava retained his European singles championship title, his fifth.

The newly-introduced short set piece, which counts for twenty per cent of the marks, is none too popular as a compromise. All that can be said in its favour is that it earned the organisers a few Marks more in gate-money as an afternoon event.

The trend is towards the reintroduction of four rather than three set pieces, worth forty per cent of the total marks, as opposed to 60 per cent for the freestyle.

It would be even more logical to abandon the set pieces altogether and specify a better freestyle programme that alone would decide the outcome.

The general public has never understood why the best skaters who gain most applause and are even awarded the highest marks do not turn out to be the champions. The reason is, of course, that the outcome has been decided virtually in advance and indeed in camera to all intents and purposes by their showing in the set pieces.

Herbert Neumann

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